

Aldershot Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ALSO

ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT

FOR

1911

BY

E. W. ROUTLEY, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

ALDERSHOT

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**TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ALDERSHOT
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the district in 1911, and at the same time wish to thank you for your courtesy and assistance during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.

ALDERSHOT URBAN DISTRICT

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1911

Latitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	51° 15' N.
Longitude	...	...	...	...	...	...	46' W.
Area of Urban District	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,178 acres.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£125,382
Population at Census 1911 (Town)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,464
„ „ „ „ (S. Camp)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,711
Population estimated to July 1st, 1911 (Town)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19,537
Birth Rate, 1911 (Town)	...	...	...	...	...	...	34·1
Death Rate, 1911 (Town)	15·0
Zymotic Death Rate (Town)	3·2
Infantile Mortality Rate (Town)	119·0

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REPORT

POPULATION.—It will be remembered that the census was taken in April, 1911; so that exact figures are available for the first time for ten years; the figures are given in the table below, those for the previous two enumerations being also added:

	Census. 1891	Census. 1901		Census. 1911	
Town	12,641	16,726	M. 8,071 F. 8,655	19,464	M. 9,470 F. 9,994
South Camp	12,954	14,248	M. 11,948 F. 2,300	15,711	M. 13,256 F. 2,455
	<u>25,595</u>	<u>30,974</u>		<u>35,175</u>	

The number of tenements or separate occupiers in the town was 4,510; while in the camp the several barracks, etc., were counted together as 18 separate dwellings. The actual number of inhabited houses in the town is not stated in the preliminary Census Report, but will be available later. I estimate the number at 3,475 in April, 1911.

For statistical purposes the population on July 1st, 1911, may be stated as follows:

	Estimated July 1st, 1911.
Town	19,538
South Camp	15,711
	<u>35,249</u>

It will be noticed that the increase in population in the town during the last ten years has not been proceeding at the same rate as it did during the previous intercensal period; the probability of which circumstance I have in previous reports frequently pointed out. * The number of school children on the books in the middle of 1911, was 3,360; it will thus be seen that they constitute 17.1 per cent. of the population.

AREA: DENSITY OF POPULATION.—The area of the Urban District is 4,178 acres, divided thus:

Town	1,432
South Camp	2,746
	<u>4,178</u>

The density of population in the town is 13.6 per acre.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.—The chief occupations of the inhabitants are letting lodgings, and the ordinary trading businesses. There are few factories and comparatively few workshops; the population includes a very large number of ex-soldiers and their families living entirely, or supplementarily, on their pensions.

GEOLOGY.—The Northern portion of the district is situated on the Bagshot Sands, and the Southern portion, comprising most of the Civil Parish, lies on the London clay. Along the banks of the River Blackwater, the eastern boundary, the soil is alluvial. The sewage works, which is at the lowest part of the district, is 231 feet above Ordnance Datum; while at the western end of the district the elevation is 393 feet.

OLD AGE PENSIONS.—The number receiving these pensions on December 31st, 1911, was 337.

RATEABLE VALUE.—The rateable value for the town in 1911 was £98,460 19s. 6d.; including the South Camp, £125,382; the assessable value being £122,237.

Debt, £63,205.

Total Rates in the £ in 1911, 5s. 9d.

ADOPTIVE ACTS OF PARLIAMENT IN FORCE.—Public Health Amendment Act, 1890, adopted in 1891; Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890, adopted in 1891; Private Street Works Act, 1872, adopted in 1907; Notification of Births Act, 1907, adopted in 1910.

BY-LAWS are in force in the district with respect to—

	Date Made.
Cleansing of Footways, Pavements and Cesspools...	1887
Common Lodging Houses	1887
Hackney Carriages	1887
Hackney Carriages (mechanically driven)	1910
Houses Let in Lodgings	1908
Mortuary	1888
New Streets and Buildings	1887
Nuisances	1887
Offensive Trades (Blood Boiler, Blood Drier, Bone Boiler)	1888
Pleasure Grounds	1888
Slaughter Houses	1887
Tents, Vans and Sheds	1907

REGULATIONS are in force in the district with respect to—

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops 1900

BIRTHS.—The number of registered births in the district was as follows :—

Town ...	512	{	Males ...	252	... }	Illegitimate. Males	6
			Females...	260		Females	10
S. Camp...	569	{	Males ...	290	... }		
			Females...	279			

Whole District 1081

Exact information is, for the first time, now supplied by the Registrar-General to Medical Officers of Health concerning "transferable" births. A "transferable" birth is one which takes place in a district other than the one in which the parents have a fixed or usual residence ; it is now placed to the credit of, *i.e.*, transferred to, the latter district.

The following is an account of the Transferable Births registered during 1911 :—

			Inward Transfers.		Outward Transfers.	
Legitimate ...	{	Males	5	...	83	
		Females	4	...	79	
Illegitimate ...	{	Males	4	...	—	
		Females	1	...	—	
			<hr/> 14		<hr/> 162	

The outward transfers refer mainly to transferable births taking place in the Louise Margaret Hospital, in which institution a large number of maternity cases are received every year from the surrounding districts. Seven births to Aldershot residents took place in the Farnham Workhouse, and the remaining 5 inward transfers in other districts. Thus, instead of 1,081 births entering into the calculation of birth-rates, we have a net figure of 933.

In addition, a calculation has also to be made of transferable births within the district. For example, 158 births in the Louise Margaret Hospital were births to women who had their usual residence in the Town and not in the Camp portion of the district. For the first time, therefore, it is possible to have accurate figures for the district and for each portion of the district. The corrected account of births is consequently as follows :—

Town	677				
South Camp	256				
933	{	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.		
		Males 458	10 =	468	
		Females 454	11 =	465	

ILLEGITIMACY.—3·1 per cent of births belonging to the Town were registered as illegitimate.

STILL BIRTHS.—14 were notified during the year (Town, 13; Camp, 1).

BIRTH-RATES.—The corrected birth-rates are as follow :—

	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.	England and Wales.
1911 ...	26·4.	34·1.	16·2.	24·4.

The Birth-rate for the whole district is a little higher than that for the country in general, while the birth-rate for the Town is very much higher than that for the whole country. This is due no doubt to the proportionately large number of young adults in the Town population. The reason for the low Camp birth-rate is obvious from a consideration of the sex constitution. In consequence of the very large number of transferable births (an item which until last year has never been enumerated in the statistics), it is useless, and indeed impossible, to make any comparison with figures obtained in former years.

DEATHS AND DEATH-RATES.—340 deaths were registered in the district in 1911, giving a crude death-rate of 9·6. Considerable additions and subtractions have to be made, however, with regard to deaths of residents not registered in the District, and of non-residents registered in the District. The corrected number of deaths is as follow :—

	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.
1911 ...	391 ...	294 ...	97

47 Aldershot residents died in Farnham Workhouse. These deaths are included in the Town total. The recorded death-rates are, therefore, as follow :—

	Whole District.	Town.	South Camp.	England and Wales.
1911 ...	11·0 ...	15·0 ...	6·1 ...	14·6

INQUESTS : UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.—24 inquests were held (Town 17, South Camp 7). Two in addition were held in Farnham Workhouse concerning deaths of Aldershot residents.

Ten deaths were uncertified (Town 8, South Camp 2).

REVIEW OF THE GENERAL MORTALITY IN THE TOWN.—There has been an exceptional mortality during 1911 due apparently to two chief causes. Firstly, the extensive epidemic of measles which prevailed in the earlier months of the year, and from which it is calculated that at least 400 children suffered. The disease

was described by all medical practitioners as occurring in an unusually severe form, and, 30 children, all under the age of five years, died from the disease. Secondly, the extremely dry, hot, and exhausting weather, which lasted from May to October, proved very fatal to very young children and to very old people. 26 children died from infantile diarrhoea, for a parallel to which we have to go back to the year 1906, in which year the weather conditions were similar, and 33 children died from this disease. In addition the deaths of an unusually large number of aged persons are recorded, thus 53 persons over 70 years of age (males 25, females 28) died during the year. Of this number 18 (males 6, females 12) were over 80, while three (all females) had reached the ages of 92, 93, and 99 respectively. The greater expectation of life enjoyed by females is well exemplified in the preceding paragraph.

INFANTILE MORTALITY. — Accurate information being now obtainable as to the number of births properly belonging to the district, it is possible to measure the infantile mortality, which has been previously, of course, somewhat underestimated, owing to the large number of recorded births which were formerly included in the calculations. For an accurate statement as to the respective mortality in Town and Camp, further information as to infantile Town deaths occurring in the Louise Margaret Hospital was also necessary, and this has been kindly supplied me by Major Green, R.A.M.C. Eleven deaths of children of Town residents occurred in that institution and the corrected figures therefore stand as follow :—

1911.		Infantile Deaths.		Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births.	
Whole District	109	...	116
Aldershot Town	81	...	119
South Camp	28	...	109

The infantile mortality rate for England and Wales in 1911 was 130.

Premature birth and congenital debility accounted for 29 deaths out of the 81 belonging to the Town; 24 infants died from summer diarrhoea, 5 from measles, 4 from whooping cough, 4 from tuberculous diseases, and 6 from diseases of the lungs. In such an unfavourable year for the health of children, the Town is to be congratulated on the comparatively low rate of mortality.

The Notification of Births Act has been well carried out during the year, only a few omissions to notify having come to my notice. Over 70 per cent. of all births in the Town are attended by Midwives only, and medical assistance was required in 66 cases out of the number attended by them, viz., approximately 400.

The Health Visitor (Nurse Shearwood) has done a great deal of good and useful work during the year, and has fully justified the expectation raised concerning this appointment. The following is a report which I made to the members of the Health Committee in April, 1911, referring to the work which had been done by her during the first six months of her appointment.

REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE APPOINTMENT OF

HEALTH VISITOR.

April, 1911.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with your directions, I have much pleasure in submitting a report on the appointment of Health Visitor. I need not remind you that the appointment was originally made for six months, at the end of which time further inquiry and report was to be made as to the desirability of the continuance of this post.

Mrs. Shearwood commenced her duties on August 1st, 1910. She presented excellent testimonials from three local gentlemen, and, in addition to the duties prescribed for her as Health Visitor, she was also appointed as School Nurse. Her duties as Health Visitor were laid down in the advertisement of the appointment as being "for the purpose of giving persons advice as to the proper nurture, management, and care of young children, of promoting cleanliness, and of discharging such other duties under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health as may be assigned to her in furtherance of the objects of the Notification of Births Act, 1907."

The particulars as regards statistics, figures, etc., which follow refer to the period of six months following her appointment, namely, from August 1st, 1910, to January 31st, 1911. During this period 264 births were notified to me as having occurred in the town; 16 of these were still births, leaving 248 live births to be considered at our discretion. A certain proportion of these births were ones in which medical practitioners were in attendance: with these cases (except in a few, where special application was made by the medical man for the Health Visitor to follow the case up), the Health Visitor has had, as a rule, nothing to do, her instructions being not to visit cases attended by medical men unless specially directed to do so. These cases, however, form a somewhat small proportion of the number of births. The majority are attended

by midwives whose duties ordinarily cease after a period of ten days. Out of these 248 births mentioned above, Mrs. Shearwood has personally visited 200 separate cases, and in connection with these 200 babies has made 584 visits to their homes. On 222 occasions babies have been weighed by her and the weight recorded. The practice of weighing these infants from time to time serves a double purpose, that of enabling those concerned to get a proper appreciation of the improvement in stamina, and also the important one of enlisting the active co-operation and interest of the mother in the proper feeding and nurture of the child.

I may here incidentally remark that a curious superstition, which, I believe, is of very ancient origin, exists in the minds of a certain number of people with regard to the weighing of children. It is, I find, looked upon as being extremely unlucky and full of evil omen for the baby. This feeling, which Mrs. Shearwood reports as very prevalent in the first few months of her appointment, has since considerably disappeared in consequence of the fact, which soon became widely known, that those babies which had been weighed did not appear to be suffering from any mortal disease on account of it, but on the other hand were getting on very well indeed.

Mrs. Shearwood keeps a complete set of books (which I inspect from time to time, and are likewise open for your inspection), in which she records her visits, weight and condition of the child, remarks on advice given, and notes as to the cleanliness or sanitary conditions of the house visited. Ten of these houses have been reported to the Inspector of Nuisances for defects in such conditions.

The Infantile Mortality during this period.—Ten of these 200 infants died during that period ; four were full-time babies, one of which died from bronchitis. The other three died in the Work-house Infirmary—one from suffocation and two (twins) from inanition. The remaining six were prematurely born.

The infant mortality rate for Aldershot for 1910 was approximately 70 per 1000 registered births, a rate which is considerably below that for the country in general. A reference to statistics of mortality, however, is only of value when pursued for a number of years.

Appointment of School Nurse.—With regard to this appointment, the following figures refer to the same period, namely, the six months ending January 31st, 1911 : During this period Mrs. Shearwood paid 329 visits to the schools, and 226 visits to the homes of the children. In addition to this three verminous children were removed to the Isolation Hospital and cleansed under Section 122 of the Children's Act, 1907. Six children

suffering from purulent discharge from the ear to such an extent as to necessitate their absence from school were attended to at their homes by the nurse, and the mothers instructed in the proper manner of treatment. Eleven children with ringworm were treated daily at the Municipal Buildings. This is an important step in advance, as there is, as you are well aware, an enormous amount of school attendance (and grant as well) lost through the delay and dilatoriness in dealing with this disease. We find that by constant attention to this complaint, and by systematic treatment, it can be cured in a few weeks in nearly all cases, whereas it was—and is still—not at all uncommon, when the child is treated at home (or, rather, is not treated) for absence from school to be continued for six, nine, and even twelve months.

The nurse also attends at the medical inspection of girls and infants, and sees that my instructions are carried out. Sometimes this entails a great deal of trouble and a great many visits to mothers, but I am very glad indeed to report that she has been very successful in these proceedings, which require an unusual degree of tact and ready sympathy. She has also been instrumental in getting hospital letters for cases when necessary; in a goodly number of these there is only too much reason to fear that nothing would be done at all unless some assistance in this way were given. She also serves as a very useful and practical helper in cases of poverty, in reporting necessitous cases to the Central Aid Committee (of which she is a member), and in obtaining clothing, boots, etc., where this is necessary, and where the cases are proper objects for charitable help. The nurse also spends one and-a-half hours at the Municipal Buildings each morning for inspection of children under my directions and for treatment of such minor ailments as appear to me to be desirable, for one or other reason to be so treated.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking her for the very valuable assistance she has given me; for the uniformly kind and sympathetic way in which she has always carried out her duties; and for the cordial and enthusiastic character of her work. I recommend her reappointment with great confidence, and can assure, not only the members of the Health Committee, but also those of the Education Committee, that they possess in Nurse Shearwood a very able and painstaking official.

Your obedient servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY, M.D.

The following is a report in tabular form of the visits which she has made during the year, together with other important particulars affecting the care of young children and their homes. One afternoon each week is set apart for the reception of

mothers at the Central Offices, where the babies are brought to be inspected and weighed and notes made as to their condition. In seven cases the parents (for the curious reason mentioned in the report) declined to have their children weighed.

Number of visits to homes of infants under one year of age	1,308
Number of babies brought to Offices to be inspected and weighed... ..	158
Number of cases reported to the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ...	2
Number of Houses reported to the Inspector of Nuisances for his attention	24

Thirty-one children whose homes had been visited shortly after birth died during the year. Eight of these were cases of premature birth, in which the stock of vitality was, of course, insufficient for existence. Four others died in the Union Workhouse and two in the Louise Margaret Hospital. Seventeen of these cases were entirely bottle fed, 10 were breast fed, and the remainder by combined methods. One child, whose death at the age of five months was the subject of inquest, had been fed on "sop," otherwise boiled bread, a diet which naturally proved fatal, and in this case the mother had been specially warned.

ZYMOTIC DISEASES.—Thirty deaths resulted from measles, 26 from diarrhœa, five from whooping cough, three from diphtheria; the zymotic death-rate for the year is, therefore, 3·2 per 1,000 of the population; a very high figure for which the extensive epidemic of measles in the early part of the year, and the phenomenal heat and drought in the summer are mainly responsible.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—In the following table the notifications received during each month are given :—

1911.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Total.
Jan. ...	1	10	—	1	—	1	13
Feb. ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	2
March ...	4	3	—	—	—	1	8
April ...	4	2	—	—	1	1	8
May ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	3
June ...	5	1	—	—	—	2	8
July ...	3	1	—	1	—	1	6
Aug. ...	—	3	—	—	—	2	5
Sept. ...	1	—	1	—	—	2	4
Oct. ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	6
Nov. ...	8	—	—	—	—	2	10
Dec. ...	10	2	—	—	1	6	19
	42	24	1	2	3	20	92

DEATHS FROM NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.—Eighteen persons died from pulmonary tuberculosis and three from diphtheria.

SCARLET FEVER.—Forty-two cases occurred in the Town and 102 in the Military Quarters. The inter-communication of Town and Camp is so intimate, that the occurrence of a number of cases of infectious diseases in one portion of the district is invariably followed by an outbreak in another. The prevalence of the disease is also no doubt being constantly kept up by the occurrence of numerous slight and “missed” cases (occurring in school children) which are overlooked by parents, or thought to be some mild and negligible derangement which requires no attention, and for which no medical opinion is sought. I have from time to time, in investigating the sources of infection, come across children peeling on hands and feet, attending school. It cannot be too strongly urged upon parents that sore throat in children with feverishness is a condition for which medical opinion and advice should always be obtained. There is no doubt that in a great many of these cases the rash accompanying the disease has been so slight that it has not been noticed by the parents, but in one or two cases that I investigated I was told that, although a red rash had been noticed, the child had got well so quickly that it could not have been anything infectious. The harm, of course, is done when the child is sent back to school, as is commonly done within the next two or three days; in one case the child was actually found in school covered with a scarlet rash. There is involved not only the great risk to the public health, but also to the individual child who, under such circumstances, even in very slight cases, should be treated as a sick person until all possible danger of injury to, or complications in, important organs, has been passed. Thus it is that one sees so many distressing cases of unnoticed and neglected cases of ear diseases and deafness later on; in most of these cases careful medical treatment and advice would have entirely prevented these incurable conditions. I should like also to impress upon parents generally the fact that under Sec. 126 of the Public Health Act a penalty of five pounds is laid upon any one in charge of a child suffering from an infectious disease, who wilfully exposes such child in any public place, and the Council will not hesitate to enforce the strict observance of this enactment.

DIPHTHERIA.—Twenty-four cases were notified, the greater number in the earlier months of the year. These 24 cases represented 21 infected houses in the following districts: 11 in the neighbourhood of Ash Road and Newport Road, 4 in the West End of the Town, while the remainder were isolated cases in other parts. Quite the larger number of cases were found, as has been repeatedly noticed in previous years, in the low-lying parts of the

Town where the ground-water is generally at a high level, and evidence of dampness in the houses is more marked. In 14 houses the drains were in a grossly defective condition; in one house, indeed, the drain which was running beneath the floor without any supporting concrete, was in pieces; in 3 other cases slight defects were present, mainly in connection with leaking ventilating shafts, while in only 4 cases were the house drains in a sound and good condition. The disease affected 10 males and 14 females. Two cases occurred in the rooms of a tailor's out-worker. Three deaths resulted from the disease in 1911, a case mortality of 12 per cent. In all of the above cases the nature of the disease was verified by bacteriological investigations.

ENTERIC FEVER.—One case occurred in a lad of 13, whose father was a labourer in the Barracks. The drains of the house were in a seriously defective condition, but the source of the infection could not be definitely traced. The patient was removed to Hospital, and made an excellent recovery.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.—Three systems of notification were in force in 1911, namely, (1) voluntary; (2) under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1908; (3) under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1911. Twenty notifications in all were received, referring to 16 individuals, the remaining 4 being notification of change of address from home to Infirmary, or vice versa. The houses have all been personally visited, but in 2 of the cases the patients had gone away without leaving any addresses. The rooms have been disinfected in all cases from which patients have been removed. Two cases were treated for several weeks in each case at the Isolation Hospital, both with marked benefit. Handbills have been distributed, conveying precautions to be observed by the patient when residing at home. Spitting cups have been provided in all cases, either by the patients themselves, or by the Poor Law Authorities. Warning tablets as to the danger of spitting are exhibited in prominent places in the Town, and also in public houses where the dangerous and disgusting practice of expectorating on the floor, cannot be too severely condemned. The majority of the patients hitherto coming under notice, have been Poor Law cases, and their Sanatorium treatment is chiefly confined to the Workhouse Infirmary. It is hoped that the new Insurance Act, with its provision for Sanatorium treatment, may be able to do some good by sound measures of prevention, namely, by providing the means whereby the disease in working men and women may be arrested in its very earliest stages. At present the individual is in too many cases in an incurable condition, when he eventually gives up his work, then becoming a Poor Law patient. Eighteen

deaths from Phthisis took place during the year, giving a death-rate of '9 which is somewhat lower than the rate for the whole country.

MEASLES.—At the close of 1910 an epidemic of more than usual virulence commenced in the Town, and extended through the district, lasting for about three months. Not for some years has there been such an extensive epidemic to which I have referred in the School Report; 30 deaths resulted from the disease, 25 occurring between the ages of two and five, and five in infants under one year of age.

WHOOPING COUGH.—This disease became prevalent during October, November, and December; five deaths occurred, four of them in children under one year of age.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES (excluding Tubercle of the Lung).—thirty-eight deaths, 27 of them from Pneumonia, and the remainder from Bronchitis.

Isolation Hospital.—North Town, Aldershot.

During 1911, 68 patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital for the following diseases :—

	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Enteric.	Observation Cases.
Aldershot Cases	18	31	2	1	5
Cases from outside districts	3	7	—	1	—
Total	21	38	2	2	5

It is very satisfactory to be able to report that 90 per cent of cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria are removed to the Isolation Hospital; in a few instances of soldiers' children, the cases have been removed to the Military Isolation Hospital. The great decrease in Diphtheria in the Town during the last ten years is doubtless due very largely to the advantage taken of effective isolation at the hospital. Five deaths took place during the year, two from Diphtheria, and the remaining three from epidemic Diarrhœa, Measles, and Pneumonia respectively. Tracheotomy was performed on one occasion.

Two thousand seven hundred and twenty-five articles have been disinfected at the Hospital during the year; the ambulance has been used 134 times; 101 houses have been disinfected, 21 of which were houses in which there had been cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. For the purpose of removing patients or clothing for disinfection, 22 journeys have been made to Farnborough, two to Fleet, two to Crookham, and one to Ash.

The establishment consists of an Administrative Block, two Isolation Blocks (12 beds in each), two spare Isolation beds, discharge block, laundry block, and disinfecting station. We have no Mortuary.

The staff consists of a Nurse-Matron, two Assistant-Nurses, Caretaker, Cook, and Maid.

The disinfectant in use is Goddard, Massey and Warner's modified Washington Lyon.

The balance sheet of the Hospital for the year ending March 31st, 1911, is as follows :—

					£	s.	d.
Maintenance	...	...	...	...	201	15	6
Salaries	...	...	...	...	171	15	9
Fuel, Light and Water	...	...	...	...	96	17	7
Ambulance Horses	...	...	...	...	23	9	6
Other Expenses	...	...	...	...	152	9	4
					646	7	8
Principal and Interest	...			...	236	0	0
					£882	7	8
Receipts for Maintenance	...	...	...	...	113	3	6
Net Cost	...	...	...	...	£769	4	2

Analytical and Bacteriological Laboratory.

A number of samples of sewage effluents have been analysed during the year ; also water samples and various articles of food.

DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The following bacteriological examinations have been made :—

	Total.		Positive.		Negative.
Diphtheria	91	...	19	...	72
Enteric Fever	4	...	1	...	3
Phthisis	23	...	7	...	16
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	...	0	...	1
Others	21	...	—	...	—

Water Supply.

The water is of great purity, and is derived from artesian wells sunk in the chalk to a depth of 400 feet. The Works are situated at the southern extremity of the district. The supply is constant. The average daily net domestic consumption per head of the population for 1911 was 29·33 gallons. This figure is somewhat higher than it has been for many years, owing, doubtless, to the long dry summer, and greater demand for its use for gardens, etc.

The rainfall at the Waterworks was 28·12 inches. In spite of the abnormally long and dry summer, and the quite exceptional drought, an abundant supply of water was always to be obtained.

ADDITION TO SERVICES DURING THE YEAR.—New trunk and feeder mains have been laid from Upper Elms Road, through Grosvenor Road, Victoria Road, Wellington Street and High Street, a distance of about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles. The number of new water services laid during the year in Aldershot was 37, and there was no discontinuance of supplies.

New Buildings.

The supervision of New Buildings is entrusted to the Surveyor. The total number erected during the year was 44 (two of which were not completed by the end of the year).

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	19
House Additions	...	...	...	...	...	2
Houses and Shops	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shop Additions	...	...	...	...	...	4
Alterations to Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cold Storage Premises	...	...	...	...	...	1
Warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital Additions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Motor Garage Additions	...	...	...	...	...	1
Church Alterations and New Hall	...	...	...	...	...	1
Additions to Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Stables	...	...	...	...	...	2
New W.C.'s	...	...	...	...	...	2
New Bath Room	...	...	...	...	...	1
School Latrines and W.C.	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cart Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	1
Conservatories	...	...	...	...	...	1
Motor Garage	...	...	...	...	...	1
Premises Rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	1

44

Removal and Disposal of House Refuse : Sewage Disposal.

The removal and disposal of House Refuse is carried out three times weekly by the Surveyor's Department. Occupiers have to place their refuse receptacles on the pavement in readiness for the scavenger; the provision of suitable covered receptacles is not insisted on by the Council, and therefore it follows that the majority of them are inadequate and insanitary. Section 36 of the Public Health Act should be enforced universally in the district in order to remedy this. Trade refuse is removed by the Surveyor on payment.

The Sewerage system is almost entirely a water carriage system, partly combined and partly separate. There is ample evidence that the sewers at the bottom of Victoria Road and along High Street are not sufficient to deal with the surface water, since repeated floodings of cellars and basements take place during heavy rains in that area. The matter, however, although long delayed, is about to receive serious attention in 1912, a loan having been granted for the purpose of carrying out the necessary works.

The house drainage is by no means perfect in the district, cases in houses arising out of complaint, or on the occurrence of infectious disease, are investigated by the Inspector of Nuisances, who has examined house drains in cases; the large proportion found defective in these cases leads me to be assured that they are defective in the same proportion in other houses. It is to be remembered that when the town was first built, houses were built irregularly and very rapidly, and the drains of the older houses are nearly all clay-puddled drains.

The sewage flows by gravitation to the Sewage Works, where it is dealt with by preliminary slight straining, and afterwards treated on contact beds. It is finally allowed to run in channels over land to reach the outfall to the River Blackwater. The final effluent, which I have analysed at various times, has been generally satisfactory. During 1911, three tertiary and one secondary beds have been added to the number already in use. The new tertiary beds are 72' x 66' x 2' each; the new secondary bed is 110' x 44' x 2'. At the close of 1911 the total number of contact beds in use was as follows:—

Primary Beds	...	...	...	...	17
Secondary Beds	...	...	...	...	13
Tertiary Beds	...	...	...	...	5
Storm Beds	...	...	...	...	5

40

The amount of sewage treated was nearly 328 million gallons, an average of 900,000 gallons approximately per day. The older beds have been forked over and aerated. A large portion of the willow trees have been cut down and cleared. The river has been cleaned from the West End as far as the Farnborough boundary.

UNSEWERED PARTS OF THE DISTRICT.

- Three cottages on crest of Redan Hill (cesspools).
- Five cottages in Cemetery Road (pail closets).
- Six houses in Cranmore Lane (cesspools).
- Two in Ayling Lane (cesspool).
- Six Cottages, Aldershot Stubbs (cesspools).

(Housing of the Working Classes.)**Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.**

The following is a tabular statement of inspection and work carried out during the year :—

Number of new houses built—

(a) By private enterprise	...	...	...	20
(b) By Council	...	...	...	0

Number of Houses inspected by Inspector of Nuisances or Medical Officer of Health—

(a) As a result of complaint	...	...	...	127
(b) As a result of infectious disease	...	...	...	75
(c) As part of inspection under the Housing Inspection of District Regulations, 1910...				37

Number of notices served for structural defects of houses—

(a) Informal	...	...	...	...	97
(b) Statutory	...	...	...	...	14

Number of notices served for other sanitary defects (*e.g.*, removal of house refuse, cleansing, etc.)—

(a) Informal	..	...	...	...	77
(b) Statutory	...	.	...	...	19

Number of notices served for—

(a) Overcrowding	.	...	...	...	10
(b) Uncleanliness	...	...	...	...	30

Number of notices complied with ... 236

Number of houses dealt with under Sect. 15, Act, 1909 ... 19

Number of houses represented under Sect. 17, Act, 1909 .. 18

(a) Number of houses put in repair (excluding those dealt with under Sect. 15) (in course of repair at close of year).	...	17
--	-----	----

(b) Number of houses closed	1
-----------------------------	-----	-----	---

(c) Number of houses demolished	0
---------------------------------	-----	-----	---

Number of obstructive buildings dealt with ... 1

Number of back to back houses ... 4

Number of cellar dwellings... 0

Number of registered houses let in lodgings ... 202

There are few unoccupied cottages in Aldershot and the rents are much higher than is usual in country towns. It is generally understood that this is due to the very high cost of the land. Only about 20 per cent. of the houses in the district come within the limits of rent in Sect. 14 of the Housing Act, 1909; the common rent of a six-roomed cottage being from 7s 6d. to 9s. There seems a real necessity for cottages which could be rented, say at 4s. to 5s. in Aldershot. One consequence of insufficient accommodation and high rents is the letting of two rooms in a cottage to another family, a state of affairs which often means overcrowding and unhealthy conditions. In addition our present building by-laws do not insist on the paving of backyards which often create a nuisance.

The following are the houses referred to as having been dealt with under Sections 15 and 17 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909 :—

Sect. 17, Housing Act, 1909.

18 houses.

Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, Drury Lane.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Stonehouse Cottages.

Nos. 14, 16, and 18, Union Street.

Sect. 15, Housing Act, 1909.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Alfred Street.

Nos. 14, 12, and 13, Drury Lane Terrace.

No. 7, Stonehouse Cottages.

Nos. 1 and 2, Chandler's Cottages.

Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Spencer Place, Lower Farnham Road.

Nos. 1 and 2, May Villas, Lower Farnham Road.

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK DONE IN THE INSPECTOR OF
NUISANCES DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR.

		Number of		Abatement Notices.		Nuisances Abated after Notices by		Nuisance remaining Unabated.
		Inspections and Observations made.	Defects found.	Informal by Inspector.	Formal by Authority.	Inspector.	Authority.	
Dwelling-houses and Schools.	(Foul Conditions ...)		89	33	2	87	2	—
	(Structural Defects ...)	637	135	59	11	124	7	4
	(Overcrowding ...)		9	9	—	9	—	—
	(Unfit for Habitation ...)		16	—	16	—	—	16
	Lodging-houses ...	122	3	1	—	3	—	—
	Dairies and Milkshops ...							
	Cowsheds ...	30	6	1	1	5	1	—
	Bakchouses ...	24	6	1	—	6	—	—
	Slaughter-houses ...	555	13	6	—	13	—	—
	Canal Boats ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House Drainage.	Ashpits and Privies ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	47	27	8	—	27	—	—
	Water-closets ...		144	40	9	135	9	—
	Defective Traps ...	See dwelling houses.	36					
	No disconnection ...		5	61	14	218	14	—
	Other Faults ...		191					
	Water Supply ...		11	11	1	—	—	11
	Pigsties ...	10	3	1	1	2	—	1
	Animals improperly kept ...	34	12	4	—	12	—	—
	Offensive Trades ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Smoke Nuisances ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Other Nuisances ...	See D.H.	12	12	—	12	—	—
	Totals ...	1,461	718	247	55	653	33	32

Complaints received ...	127
Seizures of Unwholesome Food ...	4
Samples of Food taken for Analysis ...	49
Samples of Food found Adulterated ...	5
Samples of Water taken for Analysis ...	—
Samples of Water condemned as Unfit for Use ...	—
Food Inspections (exclusive of Slaughter-houses) ...	437
Inspections of Factories and Workshops ...	60
Visits to Drainage Works in progress ...	373
House Drains, smoke tested ...	79

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS
DISEASE.

Lots of Infected Bedding Stoved or Destroyed...	75
Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	75
Schools ditto ditto	—
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	—
Convictions ditto ditto	—
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	—
Convictions ditto ditto	—

Common Lodging Houses (P.H. Act, 1875, Sect. 76-89.)

There are eight common lodging houses in the Town, the addresses and names of occupiers being as follow :—

Address.	Accommodation.	Name of Keeper.
“Model” Common Lodging House, Western Road...	36 (both sexes)	J. R. Webb.
Trinity House, Western Road	14	J. R. Webb.
Short Street	54	D. Rooney.
Little Wellington Street ...	26	Mrs. Greenwood.
Union Terrace	11	Mrs. McMinn.
1, Sebastopol Road	26	H. Seavers.
7 & 9, Sebastopol Road ...	43 (both sexes)	A. Reale.
209, High Street	25	Mrs. Dean.

The houses at 209, High Street, Short Street, and 1, Sebastopol Road are clean and well conducted; the by-laws being properly observed. The most common cause of complaint with regard to the others is the neglect of observance of the by-laws with regard to ventilation, the apertures for this purpose frequently being found closed. During the year, in consequence of this, we have had fixed ventilating gratings placed in all the rooms in these houses, which were without efficient ventilation. Such apertures were constructed also in a new room registered for 18 persons, added to the lodging house at 1, Sebastopol Road, but on a subsequent visit of inspection, I found that they had been carefully stuffed with sacks, preventing effectually any interchange of air in the room. The keeper was cautioned against repeating the offence. The lodging houses at Western Road in the occupation of J. R. Webb are very badly conducted, the by-laws being constantly defied. He was reported to the Council for infringement of By-laws 2, 7, 8, 9, and 13; a prosecution followed, the case was proved but dismissed on payment of the costs, 38/-.

Bakehouses (F. and W. Act, 1901.)

The greater number of the bakehouses come under the heading of workshops, there being only 3 factory bakehouses. Two small bakehouses were found to be in a grossly insanitary condition, while minor causes only of complaint were noted in others. In one of the two cases referred to, the windows were dirty, the floor filthy, a quantity of dirty garments were hanging on the door, and refuse was lying uncovered in the yard. A preliminary notice was given, and the conditions promptly remedied.

Offensive Trades (P. H. Act, 112.)

A tripe boiling business and a gut scraping workshop are carried on in the district, and there has been no complaint received with

regard to them during the year. One is carried on in an isolated part of the district, where no nuisance from offensive smell would be caused.

Slaughter Houses (Sect. 169, P.H.A.)—**Meat and Food Inspection** (Sect. 116. P.H.A.).

There are only two slaughter houses in the Town, both being in private occupation.

Licensed Slaughter Houses.

Address.	Occupiers.
Brighton Road (right half)	J. Edwards.
(left half, joint occupiers)	{ G. W. Chandler. A. Froude.

Registered Slaughter Houses.

Address.	Occupier.
Ash Road	Mr. Wadley.

The greater portion of the meat sold in the Town is foreign meat, while most of the British meat sold is brought into the district from slaughter houses situated in outside districts. The slaughter houses are inspected constantly by the Inspector of Nuisances, who holds the Certificate for Meat Inspection. At one of the houses, sufficient care is not taken in cleansing the garbage receptacles, and in keeping the floors of the lairs in proper condition. At one of my visits, a dog was found in a slaughter house, and the occupier cautioned as to the observance of the by-laws in this particular. Thirty-five seizures or surrenders of unwholesome food have been made during the year. Proceedings were taken by the Council in 2 cases of unsound food, one being meat, the other fish: result, conviction in both instances. In the first case with a penalty of 5 guineas and costs, in the second, 1 guinea including costs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

(S.F.D. Act, 1875; S.F.D. Amendment Act, 1879; S.F.D. Act, 1899; Margarine Act, 1887.)

Food and Drugs.

Number of samples taken in Aldershot during the year 1911.

		Genuine.	Adulterated.
New Milk	26	...	2
Demerara Sugar	1	...	—
Coffee	1	...	—
Tea	2	...	—
Citric Acid	1	...	—
Cream of Tartar ..	2	...	—
Arrowroot	2	...	—
Butter	13	...	3
Ginger	1	...	—

The prosecutions and results were as follow :—

NEW MILK.—Fined £2 2s., including costs.

BUTTER.—Fined 6d. and £1 5s. costs ; also 3s. 6d. and 7s. for selling margarine otherwise than in a properly marked wrapper. .

BUTTER—The case against the vendors was dismissed on payment of 10s. 6d. costs, owing to the fact that margarine had been obtained from a wholesale firm, and that it had been supplied as butter, with an invoice to that effect. Proceedings were, therefore, instituted against this firm for selling margarine as butter. A fine of £6 6s. including costs was inflicted.

BUTTER.—Fined £1 10s. including costs.

NEW MILK.—No proceedings taken. Sample decomposed.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

The following is a list of farms and cowsheds :—

Address.			Occupiers.
(1) Ayling Lane	...	...	J. R. Attfield.
(2) North Lane	...	...	J. Field.
(3) Newport Road	...	...	E. Christmas

There are approximately 53 cows in use at the farms.

There are 11 dairies in the Town and 59 registered milkshops ; 47 inspections have been made, 34 by the Inspector and 13 by myself.

The following undesirable conditions were noted by myself, and instructions given thereon :—

COWSHEDS.—Every ventilator in the building stopped up with straw.

DAIRIES.—(1) Manure pits kept uncovered, although covers provided.

(2) House and trade refuse lying in open yard.

(3) Milk in uncovered churns.

MILKSHOPS.—Milk allowed to remain uncovered on the counter.

Inspection of Midwives (Midwives Act, 1902).

Seventeen certified midwives applied for local registration during 1911, a decrease of four as compared with the preceding year.

Meetings of the Midwives' Committee were held on February 16th, April 13th, and October 6th. I have submitted the usual quarterly reports, of which copies are transmitted to the County Council. The following is a summary of the results of inspection during the year :--

PLACES OF RESIDENCE.—One case of insanitary conditions resulting from structural defects, which were eventually remedied.

CASE BOOKS, BAGS AND APPLIANCES.—One midwife was found to be using ordinary vaseline instead of an antiseptic lubricant as required by the rules. The same midwife was also found to have omitted sending, in two instances, duplicate notices requiring medical aid.

RECORDS OF MEDICAL HELP.—Sixty-six duplicate notices were received by me during the year.

PUERPERAL SEPTICEMIA.—Two cases, both fatal, were reported. Both were in the practice of one midwife, and were fully investigated. With regard to one of the cases, the midwife was summoned before the Midwives' Committee and cautioned.

STILL BIRTHS.—Fourteen.

CHARGES AGAINST MIDWIVES.—One midwife, as mentioned above, was cautioned by the Committee for insufficient attendance on a patient. The same midwife, later in the year, was charged with neglecting to call in medical aid to a case in the Camp. The Committee found that a *prima facie* case of neglect was made out and reported to the Central Midwives' Board. The latter body, after examination of the case, dismissed her with a caution as to strict observance of the rules in future.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURNS FOR 1911.

1911.	Mean Dry Bulb, 9 a.m.	Mean Wet Bulb, 9 a.m.	Mean Maximum Temperature.	Mean Minimum Temperature.	Highest Temperature Recorded.	Lowest Temperature Recorded.	Mean Temperature for Month.	Mean Range of Temperature.	Relative Humidity.	Total Rainfall in Inches.	Number of Days on which Rain fell.
January ...	37	35.8	41.8	32.7	53	21.5	37.1	8.1	89	1.17	13
February ...	39	37.4	44.9	33.6	54.5	16	39.2	11.3	86	1.46	18
March ...	40.3	39	46.5	35.2	57	27	40.8	11.3	89	2	18
April ...	45.3	41.7	52.4	37.8	64	25	45	14.6	74	1.7	14
May ...	55.6	50.2	64.6	45.4	75.7	33.8	55	19.2	68	2.4	8
June ...	60.2	55.1	67.4	47.3	80	35.7	51	17	71	2	12
July ...	67.4	60.3	78	52.6	89.1	45.3	65.3	25.4	65	1	6
August ...	66.5	61.5	77	53.7	94	40	65.3	26.3	78	1.48	12
September ...	59.5	54.5	69.8	45.8	89	40	57.8	24	71	1.18	10
October ...	48.2	47	56	41.3	65	24.4	48.6	14.7	90	3.1	17
November ...	43.5	41.7	46.4	37.5	57.6	27.3	44	8.9	86	4.5	22
December ...	43.6	42.5	48.4	38.1	53.4	27	43	8.3	91	7.3	27
Means, 1911	50.5	47.2	57.7	42	—	—	49.3	15.8	79.8	Total 29.3	Total 177
Means, 1910	48.7	46.1	55.3	40.9	—	—	48.1	14.3	83	Total 35.9	Total 213

NOTES TO TABLES I., Ia, & Ib.

NOTES.—These tables are arranged to show the gross births and deaths in the district, and the births and deaths properly belonging to it with the corresponding rates. For years before 1911 some of the corrected rates are not available. The rates are calculated per 1000 of the estimated gross population.

* In Column 6 are included the whole of the deaths registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district.

In Column 12 is entered the number in Column 6, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 8 and by the addition of the number in Column 9. Deaths in Column 10 are similarly corrected by the subtraction of the deaths under one, included in the number given in Column 8, and by addition of the deaths under 1 included in the number given in Column 9.

† “Transferable Deaths” are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, die in a district other than that in which they resided. The deaths of persons without fixed or usual residence, *e.g.*, casuals, must not be included in Columns 8 or 9, except in certain instances under 3 (*b*) below. The Medical Officer of Health will state in Column 8 the number of transferable deaths of “non-residents” which are to be deducted, and will state in Column 9 the number of deaths of “residents” registered outside the district which are to be added in calculating the net death-rate of his district.

The following special cases arise as to Transferable Deaths :—

(1) Persons dying in Institutions for the sick or infirm, such as hospitals, lunatic asylums, workhouses, and nursing homes (but not almshouses) must be regarded as residents of the district in which they had a fixed or usual residence at the time of admission. If the person dying in an Institution had no fixed residence at the time of admission, the death is not transferable. If the patient has been directly transferred from one institution to another, the death is not transferable to the district of residence at the time of admission to the first Institution.

(2) The deaths of infants born and dying within a year of birth in an Institution to which the mother was admitted for her confinement should be referred to the district of fixed or usual residence of the parent.

(3) Deaths from Violence are to be referred (*a*) to the district of residence, under the general rule; (*b*) if this district is unknown, or the deceased had no fixed abode, to the district where the accident occurred, if known; (*c*) failing this, to the district where death occurred, if known; and (*d*) failing this, to the district where the body was found.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4,178.

Total population at all ages :—

(Town)	19,464	35,175	} At Census of 1911.
(South Camp)	15,711		
Number of inhabited houses (estimated)			
Town	3,475		
Average number of persons per house	5.6		

TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Aldershot Urban District (including S. Camp) during 1911 and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.†		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Net		Number.	Rate.	of Non-Residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.			
			Number.	Rate.					Number.*	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1906	32712	1117			337	10·3	14	54	132		377	11·5
1907	32670	1075			306	9·3	19	42	91		329	10·6
1908	33200	1027			321	9·6	19	37	104		339	10·2
1909	33963	1058			305	8·9	23	69	90		351	10·3
1910	34944	1043			253	7·2	16	55	71		292	8·3
1911	35249	1081	933	26·4	340	9·6	26	77	109	116	391	11·0

TABLE 1A.—Vital Statistics of Aldershot Town during 1911 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		NET DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Net.		Number.*	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	Rate.
			Number.	Rate.			Number.*	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13
1906	18112	584			233	12.8	89		285	15.7
1907	18388	537			208	11.3	60		245	13.3
1908	18670	542			210	11.2	60		242	12.9
1909	18954	508			187	9.8	55		249	13.1
1910	19244	522			168	8.7	46		219	11.3
1911	19538	512	677	34.1	217	11.1	81	119	294	15.0

TABLE 1B.—Vital Statistics of South Camp during 1911 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Net Deaths Belonging to the District.			
		Uncorrected Number.	Net.		Number.*	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.			Number.*	Rate per 1,000 Births Net	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	10	11	12	13
1906	14600	523			104	7.1	43		92	6.3
1907	14282	528			98	6.8	31		84	5.8
1908	14530	475			111	7.6	43		97	6.6
1909	15009	536			118	7.8	35		102	6.8
1910	15700	513			85	5.4	25		73	4.6
1911	15711	569	256	16.2	123	7.8	28	109	97	6.1

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1911
(Aldershot Urban District.)

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole District.								Total Cases removed to Hospital.	
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years							Town	S. Camp
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards		
Small pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Practically all Cases.
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria (including Membranouscroup)	39	—	9	17	9	4	—	—	21	
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	1	—	5	—	—	—	
Scarlet fever...	144	—	29	58	52	5	—	—	39	
Typhus fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Enteric fever...	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	
Relapsing fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	
Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Phthisis { Under Tuberculo is Regulations, 1908 } Under Tuberculo is Regulations, 1911 } Others }	12	—	—	—	1	9	2	—	17	
	6	—	1	—	3	2	—	—		
	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	—		
Totals ...	214	—	39	77	68	28	2	—	79	—

Isolation Hospitals: Civil and Military, Aldershot.

TABLE IIA.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1911.
Aldershot Town only.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in the town.								Total cases removed to Hospl.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.							
		Under 1.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-45	45-65.	65 and upwards.	
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Croup)...	24	—	7	14	1	2	—	—	21
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	42	—	11	31	—	—	—	—	39
Typhus fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Relapsing fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis { Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1908 ... 12 } { Under Tuberculosis Regulations, 1911 ... 6 } { Others ... 2 }	20	—	—	—	1 3 1	9 2 1	2 — —	— — —	{ 17 }
Totals ...	92	—	19	46	7	18	2	—	79

Isolation Hospital, North Town, Aldershot. Provided by Aldershot Urban District Council.
Total available beds, 26. Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE IIB.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1911.
South Camp only.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in South Camp.							
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-45.	45-65.	65 and upwards.
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Croup) ...	15	—	2	3	8	2	—	—
Erysipelas ...	3	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
Scarlet fever ...	102	—	18	27	52	5	—	—
Typhus fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Relapsing fever..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Continued fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals ..	122	—	20	31	61	10	—	—

Military Isolation Hospital, South Camp, Aldershot.

C

TABLE III.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1911.
(Aldershot Urban District.)

Causes of Death.	Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
All causes { Certified ...	381	107	39	23	10	23	68	43	68	107
Uncertified ...	10	2	1	1	—	—	—	2	4	—
Enteric Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles...	40	6	19	15	—	—	—	—	—	10
Scarlet fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ...	8	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria and croup	3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	30	—	—	—	—	7	19	3	1	11
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Other tuberculous diseases ...	7	3	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Rheumatic Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease ...	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	9	1
Bronchitis ...	11	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	6	—
Broncho-Pneumonia	7	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all other forms) ...	34	8	5	3	1	2	5	6	4	11
Other diseases of Respiratory organs	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and enteritis	33	30	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...	5	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	6
Alcoholism ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	2
Puerperal fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	4	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	3
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ...	39	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	11	1	—	1	1	2	6	—	—	4
Suicides ...	5	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	1	—
Other defined diseases	97	3	—	2	2	6	22	16	46	24
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	21	8	4	—	—	—	4	1	4	5
All causes ...	391	109	40	24	10	23	68	45	72	107

TABLE IIIA.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1911. Aldershot Town.

Causes of Death.		Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	
All Causes	Certified ...	286	80	26	18	8	6	42	39	67	14
	Uncertified...	8	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	4	—
Enteric fever ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles...		30	5	12	13	—	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet fever ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping cough ...		5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and croup		3	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Influenza ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal fever		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)		18	—	—	—	—	2	12	3	1	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...		2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other Tuberculous diseases ...		5	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rheumatic fever ...		1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant disease ...		19	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	9	—
Bronchitis ...		11	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	6	—
Broncho-Pneumonia		7	2	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all other forms)		20	3	3	2	1	—	2	5	4	1
Other diseases of Respiratory organs		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea and enteritis		26	24	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ...		3	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Alcoholism ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Bright's disease		6	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	1
Puerperal fever ...		2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition...		2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Congenital debility and malformation, including premature birth ...		29	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Violent deaths, excluding suicide ...		7	1	—	—	1	1	4	—	—	2
Suicides ...		2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Other defined diseases		79	3	—	1	1	—	14	15	45	3
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...		17	5	4	—	—	—	3	1	4	1
All causes ...		294	81	27	19	8	6	42	40	71	14

TABLE IIIb.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1911.
(South Camp.)

Causes of Death.		Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non- Residents" in Institutions in the District.
		All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and up- wards	
All causes	Certified ...	95	27	13	5	2	17	26	4	1	95
	Uncertified ...	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Measles ...	...	10	1	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ...	...	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	...	12	—	—	—	—	5	7	—	—	11
Tuberculous Menin- gitis ...	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other tuberculous di- seases ...	...	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Rheumatic Fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer, malignant di- sease ...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
Bronchitis ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Broncho-Pneumonia	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all other forms) ...	...	14	5	2	1	—	2	3	1	—	10
Other diseases of Res- piratory organs ...	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Diarrhoea and enteritis	...	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Appendicitis and Ty- phlitis ...	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	6
Alcoholism ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of liver ...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Nephritis and Bright's disease ...	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Puerperal fever ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other accidents and diseases of pregnan- cy and parturition...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	3
Congenital debility and malformation, including premature birth ...	...	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
Violent deaths, exclu- ding suicide...	...	4	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	—	2
Suicides ...	...	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
Other defined diseases	...	18	—	—	1	1	6	8	1	1	21
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ...	...	4	3	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
All causes ...	...	97	28	13	5	2	17	26	5	1	95

TABLE IV.

Aldershot Urban District (whole District).

Infantile Mortality during the year 1910.

Net Deaths from stated Causes at various ages under One Year of Age.

Cause of Death.					Under 1 week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes.	Certified	...	...	...	20	6	3	7	36	18	18	21	14	107
	Uncertified...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	2
Small-pox ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6
Scarlet fever ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough... ..					—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	6
Diarrhoea ...					—	1	—	2	3	6	12	6	1	28
Enteritis ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations ...					2	2	—	2	6	1	—	—	—	7
Premature birth ...					16	2	3	1	22	7	—	—	—	29
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...					—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	3
Atelectasis... ..					1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at birth ...					1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas... ..					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Rickets ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (<i>not tuberculous</i>) ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Convulsions ...					—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Gastritis ...					—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Laryngitis... ..					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis... ..					—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms)... ..					—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	1	9
Suffocation, overlying ...					—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other causes ...					—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	3
					20	6	3	8	37	18	19	21	14	109

(Net) 933 Births in the year—legitimate, 912; illegitimate, 21.

(„) 109 Deaths in the year—legitimate infants, 105; illegitimate infants, 4.

TABLE IVa.

(Aldershot Town, including deaths in Farnham Union.)

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1911.

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death.					Under 1 Week.	1—2 Weeks.	2—3 Weeks.	3—4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Mth.	1—3 Months.	3—6 Months.	6—9 Months.	9—12 Months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes—					13	7	2	6	28	12	14	16	10	80
Certified	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Uncertified	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
Scarlet fever ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	1	2	3	10	6	1	22
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations ...	...	...	...	...	—	2	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	4
Premature birth ...	...	...	...	...	13	2	2	1	18	6	—	—	—	24
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Injury at birth ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	2
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
Suffocation, overlying ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Causes ...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	—	3
					13	7	2	6	28	12	15	16	10	81

(Net) 677 Births in the year (legitimate 659, illegitimate 18).

(„) Deaths in the year (legitimate infants 78, illegitimate infants 3).

PHTHISIS: SANATORIUM AND HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION (ALDERSHOT URBAN DISTRICT).

Classes for which accommodation is provided.	By whom provided.	Where situated.	Total number of Beds.	How are patients selected?	Are patients under the care of a resident Medical Officer?	What charge, if any, is made for the use of Beds?	Do the Sanitary Authority use— (1) their Isolation Hospital, or (2) their Small-pox Hospital, for cases of Phthisis?	Do the Sanitary Authority reserve Beds in any Phthisis Sanatorium: If so, how many, and in what Sanatorium?	Do the Sanitary Authority provide portable open-air Shelters or Tents?
(a) Early Cases	A. U. D. C..	Civil Isolation Hospital	2	By Medical Officer of Health after consultation with notifying Medical practitioner	No	None	(1) Isolation Hospital	No	No
(b) Intermediate cases									
(c) Advanced cases	Poor Law Guardians	Farnham Workhouse Infirmary							

There is no dispensary provided, either by the Council or any Private Body.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries).	22	1	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries).	62	14	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in part 3 of this Report).	8	2	—
Total	92	17	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of Prosecutions. (5)
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—*</i>				
Want of cleanliness	4	4		
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors	2	2		
Other nuisances	16	16		
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient... ..	1	1	
	unsuitable or defective... ..	5	5	
	not separate for sexes	1	1	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)				
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bake- houses (ss. 97 to 100)	9	9		
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)				
Total	38	38		

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.										OUTWORK IN UNWHALESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110.		
	Lists received from Employers.					Prosecutions.					Instances.			Orders made (S. 110).		
	Sending twice in the year.		Sending once in the year.			Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.		Failing to send lists.			Prosecutions.			Instances.		
	Lists.	Con-tractors.	Work-men.	Lists.	Con-tractors.	Work-men.	Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists.	Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists.		Failing to send lists.		Prosecutions.			Instances.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)
Wearing Apparel—	6	2	32	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
(1) making, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(2) cleaning and washing ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and nets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture hangings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Furniture and upholstery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cables and chains ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anchor and grapnels ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper bags and boxes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, &c., of buttons, &c. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	6	2	32	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. (1)	Number. (2)
Workshop Bakehouses	16
Other Workshops	99
Total number of workshops on Register	115

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class. (1)	Number. (2)
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)...	—
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5).	3
Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	3
Other	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year	—
In use at the end of the year	—

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December, 1911.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Aldershot Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting my second annual report showing the work accomplished during the year 1911.

Summary of Work done and Nature of Nuisances.

Houses whitewashed and cleansed throughout ...	16
Rooms whitewashed and cleansed ...	102
New W.C. pans fixed ...	36
W.C. pans cleansed ...	8
New pedestal W.C.'s fixed ...	18
New flushing cisterns provided to W.C.'s ...	19
W.C. flushing cisterns repaired ...	35
W.C.'s provided with light and ventilation ...	8
New W.C.'s built ...	4
Dilapidated W.C.'s repaired ...	16
Houses entirely re-drained ...	41
Drainage relaid in lineal yards ...	797
Other defects in drains remedied ...	24
New gullies fixed ...	36
New ventilating shafts provided ...	11
Ventilating shafts repaired ...	27
Chokages in ventilating shafts removed ...	4
Inspection chambers built ...	20
Disconnecting chambers built ...	18
Fresh air inlets provided ...	24
Scullery sink waste pipes repaired ...	23
Gully channels repaired ...	51
New scullery sinks fixed ...	17
Manhole lids and frames renewed ...	7
Drain chokages removed ...	38
Scullery floors repaired ...	8
Back yards cemented or repaved ...	29
Rain water gutters and down pipes repaired ...	31
Damp walls remedied ...	24
Defective house roofs repaired ...	27
Nuisances from the keeping of animals ...	12
Accumulations of offensive matter ...	27

Nuisances from overcrowded houses	...	...	...	9
Stable floors repaired	...	...	...	3
Manure pits provided with covers	...	...	...	2
New manure pits built	...	...	...	3
Cowshed floors repaired	...	...	...	2
„ redrained	...	...	...	2
„ reconstructed	...	...	...	2
„ provided with additional light	...	...	...	2
Slaughter-house floors repaired	...	...	...	4
„ roofs repaired	...	...	...	2
„ drains reconstructed	...	...	...	2
„ receptacles provided	...	...	...	4
Bakehouses limewashed (under notice)	...	...	...	2
Workshops	„	„	...	2
Dust bins provided	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	12

Number and Nature of Inspections.

Visits to houses	...	...	...	637
„ „ Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	555
„ „ premises where food is in preparation or exposed for sale	...	...	...	437
„ „ Lodging-houses and houses let in lodgings	...	...	...	122
„ „ Bakehouses	...	...	...	24
„ „ Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	60
„ „ Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	...	...	...	30
„ „ Offensive Trades	...	...	...	2
„ re Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	47
„ to Drainage Works in progress	...	...	...	373
New drains tested hydraulically	...	...	...	115

The smoke test has been applied to the drains at 79 houses, with the result that defects were found at 55 houses, including 12 with slight defects only.

It is gratifying to be able to report that 18 pedestal W.C.'s have been fixed during this year, to replace defective hopper W.C.'s. I would like it to become customary for pedestal W.C.'s to be fixed in all cases.

One hundred and twenty-seven complaints of nuisances were received during the year. Each complaint was immediately investigated, and the necessary steps taken for the abatement of the nuisance complained of.

Two hundred and forty-seven informal notices and 55 statutory notices have been served. The latter may be summarised as follows:—

For foul conditions	...	...	...	...	2
„ structural defects	...	...	...	...	11
Under Section 17 of the Housing, etc., Acts	...	...	...	...	16
For defects at a dairy	...	...	...	...	1
„ defective or insufficient water closets	...	...	...	...	9
„ defective house drainage	...	...	...	...	14
„ insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	1
„ defective pigsties	...	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	...	55

It has not been necessary to resort to legal proceedings to enforce the abatement of nuisances, although in two instances work was done by default under Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875.

One hundred and fifty-four letters have been written from this office.

Factories and Workshops Acts.

The register shows an increase of 9 workshops, e.g., 3 watchmakers and jewellers, 2 cycle makers and repairers, 3 boot and shoe makers, and 1 bakehouse.

Thirty-eight nuisances were detected and remedied during the year.

The following is a summary of the register of workshops:—

Dressmakers and milliners	...	...	...	...	13
Tailors	...	...	...	...	17
Watchmakers and jewellers	...	...	...	...	5
Boot and shoe makers	...	...	...	...	10
Cycle makers and repairers	...	...	...	...	8
Joiners	...	...	...	...	5
Plumbers	...	...	...	...	2
Blacksmiths and tinsmiths	...	...	...	...	6
Wheelwrights and builders	...	...	...	...	6
Upholsterers, cabinet makers and French polishers	...	...	...	...	6
Photographers	...	...	...	...	2
Laundries	...	...	...	...	6
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	2
Tripe boiler	...	...	...	...	1
Gut scraper	...	...	...	...	1
Bakers	...	...	...	...	16
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	9

115

Slaughter-houses.

The number of slaughter-houses remains the same as last year. Five hundred and fifty-five visits have been paid, but, of course, it must not be assumed that slaughtering was in

progress on the occasion of each of these visits, which were in numerous cases futile and really a waste of time, showing the inconsistent and irregular methods invariably prevailing at private slaughter-houses, and demonstrating one of the disadvantages of such slaughter-houses. Owing to the lack of opportunities for inspection at slaughtering times, one cannot make a purchase in a butcher's shop and have full confidence as to the soundness of the meat purchased. Food inspection is of paramount importance, and I see no reason why the provision and use of public abattoirs should not be made compulsory. It would be a great thing for Aldershot to be able to say that the whole of the meat before being exposed for sale had been inspected and pronounced fit for human food.

With regard to the sanitary condition of the slaughter-houses, I am able to report that the good improvement reported last year is being maintained. One slaughter-house, however, has not yet reached the standard of cleanliness which I desire, and the occupier has been repeatedly warned, verbally and in writing. The last letter was written on the 5th December, in which he was informed that should any further cause for complaint be given, a report to the Council would follow.

Each slaughter-house has been provided with one or more covered galvanized iron receptacles for the reception of blood, garbage, and slaughter-house refuse, which are required to be removed, emptied and cleansed once in every 24 hours. Previously, the slaughter-house refuse was deposited in brick-built manure pits, which were not emptied until full. The slaughter-houses in Brighton Road having fallen into a state of disrepair, I communicated with the owner, with the result that new floors were provided in the cattle lairs, the roof rendered watertight, and trapped gullies fixed to receive the drainage from the slaughter-house floors, instead of small untrapped cesspools near the doorways. The floors of the cattle lairs at Ash Road slaughter-house have also been repaired. Formerly, I experienced difficulty in securing the limewashing of the walls in accordance with the by-laws, but now, I am pleased to say, this is carried out at the stated periods.

Food Inspection.

Owing to the fact that a large portion of the meat sold in your district is brought in ready dressed from outlying districts, it is necessary to inspect the butchers' shops. Four hundred and thirty-seven such inspections have been made, and in four instances I have found diseased or unsound conditions. Seizures followed in each case, and magistrates'

orders obtained for the condemnation and destruction of the food. In the first case a dropsical and emaciated carcase of pork was exposed for sale, which was obviously unfit for food. It transpired that this carcase had been brought in ready dressed from outside the district. I reported the facts to your Health Committee, and it was decided to write to the Council of the district in which the pig had been slaughtered. The second case was very similar to the latter, being a pig carcase exposed for sale, which was emaciated and dropsical and quite unfit for food, and had been brought in ready dressed from the same district. No action was taken by your Committee in this instance. The third case was a seizure of fish (whiting) from a fried fish shop. I visited this shop in the ordinary way and asked to see the fish which was intended to be cooked. I was shown a kit containing two large codfish, and several stones of whiting. The codfish, which were on the top of the whiting, were sound, but the latter were decidedly bad. I subsequently learned that a statement made to me by the proprietor to the effect that having recognised the fish was bad, more fish had been ordered before my arrival, was untrue. Upon reporting the facts to your Committee it was decided to take legal proceedings. A fine of one guinea, including costs, was imposed. The last and most serious case was detected upon visiting the sausage-making room at a meat shop belonging to a butcher in a large way of business. The subject of the seizure was a side of beef extremely emaciated and tuberculous. The whole side weighed approximately 80lbs., the average weight being 250lbs. to 300lbs. It appeared that the animal (a cow) had been bought alive at a farm outside the district, and slaughtered there by the butcher, who brought one side to his shop for the purpose of sale, the other side being retained by the farmer. Your Committee considered this a most flagrant case, and it was decided that legal proceedings should be taken, with the result that the butcher was fined £5 5s. and costs, amounting altogether to £8 4s.

There are within your district 21 fried fish shops. Strict attention has been paid to the cleanliness of these premises, and several of them are not as clean, by any means, as they ought to be. It is highly essential that cleanliness at these premises should be a conspicuous feature, but I regret the dirty conditions prevailing in some instances have forced me to issue warnings. It is to be deplored that no by-laws regulating fried fish shops have been adopted, without which it is a difficult matter to deal with.

The following table gives the particulars of surrenders and seizures during the year:—

DATE.	SUBJECT AND DISEASE.	PLACE.	SURRENDERED OR SEIZED.	RESULT OF ACTION TAKEN.
1911.				
Jan. 2	Two Pig Carcases and Complete Offal. Tuberculosis.	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
" 10	One Pig Carcase. Dropsy and Emaciation...	Shop ...	Seized	Letter written to the Council of District in which the Pig was slaughtered.
" 30	200 lbs. Herrings. Unsound ...	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
April 19	70 lbs Finnan Haddocks. Unsound ...	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
" 27	One Pig Carcase. Dropsy and Emaciation...	Shop ...	Seized	No Action taken.
" 28	Three Sheep Carcases. Dropsy and Emacia- tion.	Slaughter-house	Surrendered	—
June 1	One Pig's Head and Complete Viscera. Tuberculosis.	Slaughter-house	Surrendered	—
" 6	125 lbs. Haddocks. Unsound ...	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
Nov. 29	98 lbs. Whiting and Cod. Unsound ...	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
Dec. 12	42 lbs. Whiting. Unsound ...	Shop ...	Seized	Fined 1 guinea includ- ing costs.
" 13	One Side Beef, weight 80 lbs. Tuberculosis.	Shop ...	Seized	Fined £8 4s. including costs.
" 14	28 lbs. Whiting. Unsound...	Shop ...	Surrendered	—
" 19	One Pig Carcase. Dropsy and Emaciation...	Slaughter-house	Surrendered	—

In addition, a quantity of offal has been surrendered, including 3 meatenteries, 7 pairs lungs, and 9 livers.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

There are on the register 11 dairies, 4 cowsheds (3 farms), with a total of 53 cows, and 59 milkshops. Periodical inspections have been made to ensure compliance with the by-laws. The yard in connection with one dairy has been repaved and alterations carried out to the drains. The manure pit, having also fallen into a state of dilapidation, has been repaired and provided with a cover. Two cowsheds have been extensively improved by means of the provision of additional lighting area, and the entire reformation of the floors and channels, whilst one cowshed, which previously drained to a cesspool, has been entirely re-drained by means of a new connection to the sewer.

Common Lodging-Houses.

The eight common lodging-houses within the district are kept in a fairly satisfactory manner, with the one exception mentioned in last year's report. Two can be mentioned as being creditably conducted and above reproach, as far as cleanliness is concerned. With regard to the one exception, I have had occasion to complain of the dirty state of the bedding and floors.

Hackney Carriages.

There are four ranks within the district, having accommodation for 50 cabs, summarised as follows:—

Station Rank, accommodation for	...	...	...	17
East Cavalry Barracks	...	...	...	26
The Grove	...	...	...	6
High Street	...	...	...	1
Total				50

The cabs standing on the station rank are not "hackney carriages" within the meaning of the Act, and therefore are not affected by your by-laws.

I have periodically inspected the cabs on the other ranks and noticed on several occasions minor infringements of the by-laws, which were immediately rectified upon my request. No complaints have been received during the year.

Forty-seven hackney carriage licenses have been issued, classified as under:—

- 27 horse-drawn vehicles.
- 14 taxicabs.
- 4 motor 'buses.
- 2 motor char-a-bancs.

Fifty-eight drivers' and conductors' licenses have been issued, classified as under:—

26 drivers of horse-drawn vehicles.
 17 drivers and conductors of motor 'buses.
 15 drivers of taxicabs.

New fare plates have been provided for all the taxicabs, and I also have a supply of new badges, which will be given out to each driver and conductor at the renewal of licenses in April, 1912, and the wearing of these badges will be enforced.

	£	s.	d.
Fees collected up to December 31st, 1911 ...	14	15	0
Special licenses	4	5	0
	<hr/>		
	£19	0	0
	<hr/>		

In conclusion, I beg to express my gratefulness for your kindness and encouraging support in the carrying out of my various duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

FRANK WHITEHEAD.

March, 1912.

ANNUAL REPORT
TO THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
OF THE
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
For the Year 1911.

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

For the Year 1911.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my report for 1911 concerning the medical inspection of the children in the Elementary Schools under your charge.

The number of teachers, and the accommodation at the close of 1911, together with the average number of children on the books and the average attendance during the year, are given in the table below:—

		No. of Teachers.		Accommodation.		Average No. on Books.		Average Attendances.
West End School.								
Boys	...	8	...	370	...	326	...	306
Girls	...	8	...	295	...	323	...	287
Infants	...	13	...	666	...	592	...	496
Total	...	29		1331		1241		1089
East End School.								
Boys	...	8	...	317	...	—	...	272
Girls	...	7	...	342	...	—	...	249
Infants	...	6	...	216	...	—	...	197
Total	...	21	...	875	...	800	...	718
Newport Road.								
Mixed	...	12	...	480	...	—	...	437
Infants	...	6	...	300	...	—	...	257
Total	...	18	...	780	...	759	...	694

		No. of Teachers.	Accommodation.		Average No. on Books.		Average Attendances.
Church of England.							
Mixed ...	...	7	...	112	...	—	108
Infants	...	—	...	78	...	—	74
		—		—		—	—
Total	...	7	...	190	...	209	182
Roman Catholic.							
Mixed ...	...	6	...	182	...	—	176
Infants	...	3	...	112	...	—	94
		—		—		—	—
Total	...	9	...	294	...	310	270
		—		—		—	—
Grand Total ...		84	...	3470	...	3319	2954
		—		—		—	—

General Review of the Hygienic Conditions of the Schools.

SURROUNDINGS.—The schools are well situated, and large open spaces are within short distances of all.

VENTILATION.—The arrangements that are provided for the purpose of ventilation are ample and sufficient, but they are not always taken advantage of to their fullest extent. Tobin tubes, Boyle's ventilators, or air gratings, are in use in all the schools; the windows, however, should be kept open in greater number and for longer periods than they sometimes are; questions of cold and draughts sometimes appear to be difficult to reconcile with an abundant supply of fresh air.

HEATING, LIGHTING, ETC.—Open fires are in use in all the schools; in addition to these, the large West End Infants School has hot water radiating apparatus, while gas radiators are in use at the three West End Schools; these latter are placed in wrong situations, and do not appear to be much used, as the head teachers have complained to me that they experience symptoms of languor and headache during their use. This is not to be wondered at, since the system does not allow of proper dispersal of the poisonous products of the gas.

The lighting in most of the schools is very satisfactory. In the West End Boys School adjacent buildings and large trees interfere with light in the class room of Standard VII.

EQUIPMENT AND SANITATION.—Considerable improvements have been made with regard to desk equipment during the past year; thus in the East End Boys School 25 new dual desks replace others of old and unsuitable pattern. Rather more than half the school is now provided with dual desks. The remaining desks have not got the grave defects of the older ones, but should have folding seats. At the East End

Girls School there are now 32 dual desks and 37 long ones of old design, a number of which are unsuitable, since the seats are placed too far behind the desks, and have no back rests.

At the East End Infants School 30 new dual desks have been added during the year, in the place of a certain number which have been discarded. Sixteen long desks of old pattern remain in the babies' class room; while 12 long ones of obsolete design, and nine others which are fairly satisfactory make up the desk equipment in the school. The gallery in one of the class rooms has been removed. At the West End Boys School all the desks are of a modern type, but many are in a somewhat bad state of repair. The West End Girls School desks are all dual, and of fairly modern design. The Roman Catholic Schools have only 18 new dual desks; more than half the desks are of obsolete pattern, new ones of up-to-date make being badly wanted. At the Church of England School the older scholars have 12 large desks without backs, three large desks with backs, and 20 dual desks. The Infants have 24 dual desks and four large desks, three of which are defective, and should be replaced by new ones. A new sliding wood partition for one of the large class rooms at the West End Boys School has been added during the year.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES, LAVATORIES, CLOAK ROOMS, ARRANGEMENTS FOR DRYING CLOTHES, WATER SUPPLY.—The conveniences in use are latrines, automatically flushed; they are examined periodically, together with the drains, by the Town Surveyor. The latrines are limewashed periodically by the caretakers, and are, as a rule, kept clean and in good order. At the Roman Catholic School a new and sufficient cloak room has been provided, together with new lavatories. At the East End Infants School there are 280 places or pegs for clothes in the cloak room, but 30 of these are broken and half are placed so low as to be of little use, and, indeed, unsuitable for hanging clothes. The water supply is derived from the general water supply of the town, is wholesome and abundant; metal cups and enamelled cups, chained and unchained, are attached at the point of supply at all the schools. In a letter to the Clerk in November I complained that not only the lavatory basins, but the cups for drinking, at the East End School were dirty and discoloured, and drew attention to the desirability of having all the drinking utensils in all the schools thoroughly sterilised by boiling once a week, and he reports that instructions have been issued to the caretakers that this procedure is to be carried out in future. At the West End Boys School the drinking cup for the use of the boys is suspended over the sink gully, outside the

building. On one occasion I reported that the supply of towels to the East End Girls School lavatories was insufficient. This, however, has since been remedied.

GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDICAL INSPECTION.—(School Medical Officer, Dr. E. W. Routley, Medical Officer of Health; School Nurse, Mrs. E. Shearwood.) The medical inspection of scholars from the West End Boys and Girls Schools, the Roman Catholic Schools, and the Church of England Schools is carried out at the central offices at the Municipal Buildings, there being no rooms at these schools suitable or available for the purpose. The inspection of children from the West End Infants School, the East End Schools, and the Newport Road Schools is conducted on the school premises. Notices are sent to parents advising them as to date, hour, and place of inspection, and inviting them to be present at the examination. The School Nurse and the head teacher do the preliminary weighing and measuring, and the rough eye tests for each child, Snellen's types being used at the regulation distances. Notes are made by the head teacher, also of any special point connected with each child to which he or she may think important, particularly with regard to mental capacity; the examination of each child occupies, on an average, five minutes.

NON-ROUTINE INSPECTION.—In addition to the 1,115 children enumerated as having been inspected under the statute, there were 572 informal or non-routine inspections of children who were referred to me for examination and direction. Most of these were referred to me by the teachers, School Nurse, or parents, and others were the subjects in special investigations by myself in visits (42 in number) to the schools in the town. During the year the School Nurse has paid 348 visits to the schools, and the work that she has accomplished (a fuller account of which appears on a later page) has been a very valuable one.

PREVIOUS HISTORY.—A table showing the extent of previous illness in the history of the children is appended:—

	Total No. of Children.		Percentage of Children.		Boys.	Girls.	Percentage.	
							Boys.	Girls.
Measles ...	868	...	77.8	...	433	...	77.8	77.8
Whooping Cough ...	531	...	47.6	...	257	...	46.2	49.0
Chicken Pox ...	290	...	26.0	...	132	...	23.7	28.2
Mumps ...	246	...	22.0	...	128	...	23.0	20.0
Scarlet Fever ...	60	...	5.3	...	32	...	5.7	5.1
Diphtheria ...	38	...	3.4	...	16	...	2.8	3.9

In addition, 12 children had suffered from severe fits, 9 from rheumatic fever, 5 from enteric fever, 2 from epilepsy, and 1 each from dysentery, malaria, chorea, "dropsy," asthma, and empyema.

In connection with the incidence of measles and whooping cough, it remains to state that 66 per cent. of the children under five years of age had had measles, and 36·5 per cent. had had whooping cough. In the group of leavers (i.e., those over 13) 88 per cent. had had measles and 66 per cent. had had whooping cough.

CHILDREN REFERRED FOR FURTHER EXAMINATION.—Under this heading are 140 children who, after inspection, were directed to be excluded from the school until they had been rendered fit to attend; 131 of these cases were for more or less verminous condition of the head or body.

PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.—Children were accompanied by one of the parents (or their representatives) in 64·5 per cent. of cases (boys 64·2 per cent., girls 64·8). In the infants' departments the proportion of children accompanied by parents was considerably greater, reaching 77·8 per cent. The presence of parents is encouraged as much as is possible, and the fact that such a large proportion attend is distinctly creditable, and shows, I think, that great interest is taken in the occasion, and that the general feeling is strongly sympathetic with the objective considerations in view. Instances are constantly being brought to my notice of mothers who give up their work for the afternoon specially to attend the inspections.

SCHEDULE OF INSPECTION.—The schedule of the Board of Education (with one slight addition) is used, and is here reproduced. While it omits the enumeration of certain points which might well be of statistical interest, it is, nevertheless, sufficiently comprehensive to include nearly everything that is likely to be of practical value to the individual child. If one might suggest an addition, I certainly think that it would be wise to include examination for the presence of hernia. This defect, which I am afraid is much more common than the published figures show, is at present, in some cases probably, overlooked, since the undressing of the child is not usually carried (especially in the case of girls) to the extent which would reveal its presence. Sometimes, however, the condition is mentioned by the parent, but in other cases, which are not noted, I fear that the dread that surgical operation would almost certainly be advised often means that the defect is not spoken of. In two cases accidentally brought to my notice during the year nothing would have probably been done in either case if they had not been brought to medical inspection. Both cases were, however, operated on and radically cured.

I.—*Name* _____

Date of Birth _____

Address _____

School _____

II.—*Personal History.*

(a) Previous Illnesses of Child (before admission).

Measles _____ Scarlet Fever _____

Whooping Cough _____ Diphtheria _____

Chicken pox _____ Mumps _____

Other Illnesses _____

(b) Family Medical History (if exceptional).

*General Observations.**Directions to Parent or Teacher.*

	I.	II.	III.	IV.
1. Date of Inspection				
2. Standard and regularity of Attendance				
3. Age of Child				
4. Clothing and foot-gear				
5. Height				
6. Weight				
7. Nutrition				
8. Cleanliness and condition of skin				
Head				
Body				
9. Teeth				
10. Nose and Throat.				
Tonsils				
Adenoids				
Submax & cervical glands...				
11. External eye disease				
12. Vision				
R.				
L.				
13. Ear disease				
14. Hearing.....				
15. Speech				
16. Mental condition				
17. Heart and circulation				
18. Lungs.....				
19. Nervous system ..				
20. Tuberculosis				
21. Rickets				
22. Deformities, spinal disease, &c.				
23. Infectious or contagious disease...				
24. Other disease or defect... ..				
Medical Officer's Initials				

NUMBER OF CHILDREN STATUTORILY INSPECTED ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE.—In consequence of the rapidly changing character of the population, the number that have to be inspected is relatively much higher than is the case in other districts in the country. For example, in England and Wales generally the number of children to be medically inspected is approximately one-fourth of the average attendance. In Aldershot, on the other hand, instead of the usual proportion, the number inspected reaches nearly 38 per cent.

The children inspected included “entrants” and “leavers,” the latter group including all who have reached the age of 13.

The number inspected, however, does not really include all who should have been examined, as quite a number of children leave the town at short notice, often before inspection day, as so large a number of the families in the town are camp followers. The table below gives the number inspected from each school enumerated according to age and sex:—

BOYS.

	3-4.	4-5.	5-6.	6-7.	7-8.	8-9.	9-10.	10-11.	11-12.	12-13.	13-14.	14-15.	TOTAL.
Church of England	4	10	11	2	2	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	33
Roman Catholic...	3	8	11	3	3	2	1	—	—	—	8	1	40
West End	21	27	20	11	6	26	18	10	5	8	29	2	183
East End	9	20	33	14	8	9	12	7	3	5	26	4	150
Newport Road	22	30	27	14	9	3	5	2	2	5	28	3	150
Total	59	95	102	44	28	41	37	21	10	18	91	10	556

GIRLS.

	3-4.	4-5.	5-6.	6-7.	7-8.	8-9.	9-10.	10-11.	11-12.	12-13.	13-14.	14-15.	TOTAL.
Church of England	—	9	9	9	2	3	4	2	5	4	5	1	53
Roman Catholic ...	3	11	10	3	2	1	2	4	1	1	5	1	44
West End	18	31	36	11	12	17	14	7	9	5	29	—	189
East End	8	20	26	10	12	10	7	3	6	8	17	6	133
Newport Road	18	20	23	9	22	8	6	5	3	2	22	2	140
Total	47	91	104	42	50	39	33	21	24	20	78	10	559
Grand Total..	106	186	206	86	78	80	70	42	34	38	169	20	1115

CHILDREN IN RESPECT OF WHOM DIRECTIONS WERE GIVEN FOR TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.—In 173 instances directions were given for treatment; the directions were given verbally when the parent was present, and in the remainder of cases written notices were sent. This number comprises, of course, only those children in whom gross or pronounced defects, the remedy of which appeared either to be urgent or more than usually important; as a matter of fact, in the vast majority of children some minor condition or defects (e.g., clothing, state of teeth) necessitated remarks, advice and directions.

CLOTHING AND FOOTGEAR.—I have tabulated below certain cases, 30 in number, in which the conditions found were very extreme:—

Clothing.

Very dirty and insufficient	...	...	3
Clean but insufficient	...	...	7
Verminous	...	...	4
Sufficient but very dirty	...	...	5
			<hr/>
			19

Footgear.

None	...	...	2
So tattered as to be quite useless	...	...	9
			<hr/>
			11

I have commented previously on the well-known fact that in the great majority of cases children are sent for inspection very clean and in their best clothes. It is only in a very small number of cases in which no pride in the appearance of the children is evidenced by the mother, and in which cleanliness is entirely overlooked. While the cases enumerated above are those in which the conditions stated were found to be very gross, yet there are constantly to be found children whose underclothing is not quite suitable, or are either too thinly clad in cold weather, and sometimes too thickly clad in the summer. A more important question is that of the footgear. One cannot help noticing that a great many children have boots which are quite presentable in appearance but are quite useless and indeed dangerous in wet weather; the younger children, at all events, would be very much better off without boots at all than with the boots one sometimes sees, which are not properly watertight. I am inclined to ascribe a large number of the colds and catarrhs which are so prevalent amongst the school children in the winter and spring to this very cause. Without boots and

stockings at all, the feet would quickly get dry in the air of a schoolroom, and the child protected to some extent from the chilling effect of sitting with wet feet; good wooden clogs are much to be preferred in many ways, being both cheaper and more durable.

CLEANLINESS OF HEAD AND BODY.—I am glad to report that a very considerable improvement has taken place in this important condition. The improvement is not only shown in lessened numbers of uncleanly children, but also and more markedly in the extent of the condition in the particular children. The term uncleanliness is used in this paragraph as referring solely to the presence of verminous conditions, and not to actual dirt, although it necessarily connotes absence of proper, cleanly, maternal care. Firstly, with regard to the head, 131 children (16 boys and 115 girls) are returned as having verminous hair; this gives a percentage in the schools of 2·8 of boys and 20·5 per cent. of girls among those inspected.

I have been in the habit of separating these children for the purposes of classification under three headings as regards uncleanly condition of hair; thus, slight, marked, and very gross cases. Divided up in this way, I find the following:—

Children affected	only slightly	...	...	...	78
„	„	markedly	...	...	52
„	„	very grossly	...	...	1
					—
					131
					—

the proportion of well marked and gross cases being very considerably less than in former years. With regard to body conditions, 2 children were examined with actual vermin crawling on them, 7 were covered with scratchmarks, from the irritation of lice, 15 children were somewhat fleabitten, 9 more were markedly so, while 2 were covered with fleabites from head to foot, and 2 were sent with their bodies in an excessively dirty condition.

With regard to the action taken, the children are excluded from school, notices are sent to the parents calling attention to the condition, and giving directions for remedy. At the end of three days they are expected to attend school in a fit condition, and if this is not carried out the matter is placed in the hands of the Clerk, who sends official notices requiring compliance with the directions given.

Action was taken by me under Section 122, Children Act, with regard to one child, who was removed to the Isolation Hospital and thoroughly cleansed.

Prosecutions for non-attendance due to exclusion for verminous conditions were instituted by the Committee in 13 cases.

MALNUTRITION.—It is a very difficult matter to erect standards in which one may place the varying minor degrees of malnutrition as found in children. Nearly all of them are to be noted in connection with some defect, such as bad teeth, worms, adenoids, etc., and thus have been considered in relation to such defect. There are, however, a certain number of very pronounced cases in which deeper causes are at work, such as poverty, neglect, or more serious disease. Forty-eight children, or a proportion of 4 per cent. were found to be suffering from a very bad state of nutrition. In a number of cases poverty, with its attendant evils, was undoubtedly the chief reason; while certain others appeared to be mainly due to intestinal worms; one child had tuberculosis of the lungs, while in another (a girl of 11) a somewhat advanced form of heart disease was responsible. One girl whom I noted (and in whom the mother, strangely enough, did not seem to have noticed anything wrong) was suffering from heart disease, was practically blind in one eye, had running ears, and had her teeth nearly all decayed and in a very septic condition, and was very considerably below the average weight. On the other hand 22 children are noted as being in an exceptionally good state, free from any physical defect, and with their teeth sound and in excellent condition.

The following table shows the average height and weight of the boys and girls respectively:—

Age Period.	No.	BOYS.				GIRLS.			
		Height.	Weight.			Height.	Weight.		
		ft. in.	st. lbs.			ft. in.	st. lbs.		
3-4	59	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	47	3 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 4		
4-5	95	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 8	..	91	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 7		
5-6	102	3 5	2 11	...	104	3 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$		
6-7	44	3 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 2	...	42	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0		
7-8	28	3 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 4	...	50	3 9	3 4		
8-9	41	4 0	3 9	...	39	4 0	3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$		
9-10	37	4 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 1	...	33	4 1	3 11 $\frac{3}{4}$		
10-11	21	4 3	4 4	...	21	4 3	4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$		
11-12	10	4 5	4 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	24	4 5	4 8 $\frac{3}{4}$		
12-13	18	4 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 0	...	20	4 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 10 $\frac{1}{4}$		
13-14	91	4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 11	...	78	5 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	6 1		
14-15	10	4 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 0	...	10	4 10	6 2 $\frac{1}{2}$		

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DEFECTIVE TEETH.—I have prepared a table showing the extent of dental disease found amongst the children at the various age periods. The term, "somewhat defective" signifies that less than four teeth were diseased, while "seriously defective" implies that four or more teeth were diseased:—

Ages.			Sound percentage.		Somewhat Defective percentage.		Seriously Defective percentage.
3— 4	...	75·4	...	15·0	...	10·9	
4— 5	...	51·0	...	29·0	...	20·0	
5— 6	...	36·4	...	30·6	...	33·0	
6— 7	...	23·2	...	30·0	...	46·5	
7— 8	...	30·0	...	30·0	...	40·0	
8— 9	...	11·2	...	51·0	...	37·5	
9—10	...	14·3	...	47·1	...	38·5	
10—11	...	16·6	...	40·0	...	42·0	
11—12	...	27·0	...	61·7	...	11·7	
12—13	...	31·6	...	55·3	...	13·1	
13—15	...	31·2	...	54·5	...	14·3	

Further, it is to be noted that 13 per cent. of boys and 10 per cent. of girls had six or more bad teeth (in some cases 10, 12, and even 15). The parents are advised in every case that the daily use of the tooth brush should be impressed upon the children, that the useless teeth should be extracted, and those capable of preservation should be stopped. In the hygienic lessons which the children receive at the schools the method and advantages of teeth cleansing are demonstrated by the teachers. I find that a considerable number of the children possess tooth brushes but only use them very occasionally. Conservative treatment with regard to the teeth of children is apparently never thought of by parents, their only idea of dental treatment being extraction. I found only three cases of children among the 1,115 examined who had had any teeth stopped, and these were children who had been at a Poor Law school, where dental treatment had been provided by the Guardians. It is very little recognised that the lamentable extent of bad teeth amongst children is responsible in a great measure for the physical deterioration in after life, while during school life it is a prolific cause of malnutrition, anæmia, glandular enlargements, physical pain, and bad attendance. Dental treatment, besides being thought of little moment, is also practically out of the reach of most of the cases, owing to expense.

TONSILS AND ADENOIDS.—Eighty-four children were found to have enlargements of the tonsils, 16 of them to such an

extent as to require surgical treatment. Thirty-five children also had adenoids, generally associated with enlarged tonsils; 14 of these were "mouth-breathers," and were recommended for operation. Out of the total number of 30 advanced cases of tonsils and adenoids 21 are reported to have been operated; in nine cases the parents refused to have any surgical treatment. It should be recognised, however, that surgical treatment alone is not sufficient in many cases to cure the evils which arise from these conditions; the child should be encouraged by daily exercise to breathe entirely through the nose.

ENLARGED GLANDS.—Five hundred and six children, or a proportion of 45·3 per cent., had glandular enlargements, 435 of these to a very slight extent, 69 to a marked extent, while two suffered from very great enlargement of glands in the neck. The condition *per se*, of course, does not, as a rule, demand any treatment, but is only an index to the presence of other disorders which should receive treatment.

The following table shows the percentage of affected children at different age periods:—

3—5	...	36 per cent.
5—7	...	46 „
7—9	...	70 „
9—11	...	80 „
11—13	...	80 „
13—15	...	40 „

The common causes are the presence of diseased teeth, dirty or verminous condition of hair, and adenoids, in their order of frequency, and it will be noticed that the percentage of children thus affected corresponds to a great extent with the number specified with bad teeth in the preceding table.

EXTERNAL EYE DISEASE.—The conditions found were as follows:—

Strabismus	...	...	12
Blepharitis	...	...	8
Corneal Nebulæ	...	...	4
Nystagmus	...	...	2
Conjunctivitis	...	...	1
Ptoſis	...	...	1

VISION.—The eyesight of all children above seven years of age was examined, and 69 cases (or a proportion of 6 per cent.) were so defective as to necessitate the recommendation of suitable glasses—18 of these, however, were wearing

correcting glasses at the time of examination. Forty-seven were examined by me (in most cases by retinoscopy), and proper glasses prescribed. The Education Committee, on application in suitable cases after investigation, contribute partly or wholly to the cost of the spectacles, which are supplied at the contract price (for most cases) of from 2s. 9d. to 4s. 6d., according to the case.

Among 50 cases of defective vision examined by me the following conditions were found:—

Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	24 ; or 48 per cent.
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	10 ; or 20 ,,
Hypermetropia	...	...	7 ; or 14 ,,
Myopia	...	...	7 ; or 14 ,,
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	2 ; or 4 ,,

The importance of early inspection of children with regard to eye defects is constantly seen in the examination of children who are leaving school. Three cases were met with in children of 13 years of age who were practically blind in the right eye, while having normal acuity of vision in the left; in none of these three cases were the parents cognisant of the presence of the defects, since the children had been using their sound eye for years to the neglect of the defective one, and enjoying as they did fair vision, did not show any symptoms of eye strain. Had they been seen at an earlier age the vision in the defective eye would have been probably corrected before further damage was caused by disuse. A distressing case of progressive myopia was seen in a child of 13, a case which was so extreme that distinct vision was impossible at a greater distance than two inches, in which it was very doubtful if any help could be given with glasses. The great majority (92 per cent.) of the cases of defective vision found were rectified as reported above. In one or two cases the parents refused to have anything done, and in the remaining cases no information as to what has been done is available, the children having meanwhile left the school or the town.

EAR DISEASE—DEFECTIVE HEARING.—Five per cent. of the children examined suffered from defective hearing in a greater or lesser degree. I have arranged them as follows:—

Children somewhat deaf	...	...	46
,, Deaf	...	...	10
,, Very deaf	...	...	1
			—
			57
			—

Thirty-two children had discharge from one ear and 11 from both, cases of chronic disease of the little bones of the middle ear, secondary in most cases to infectious diseases in childhood, notably measles and scarlet fever. Many cases of slight deafness are due to obstruction by wax and the presence of adenoids in the pharynx, the proportion of these conditions in the above cases of defective hearing being as follows:—

Middle Ear Disease (with or without discharge)	...	38 ; or 66·6%	of the cases.
Obstruction by Wax	...	11 ; or 19·3%	„
Adenoids	... ..	8 ; or 14%	„
<hr/>			
57			
<hr/>			

As will be seen from the table on a later page, a large number of cases have been improved as a result of careful syringing, either by the parent, on the advice of their medical attendant, or, in more necessitous, dirty, or neglected cases, by the School Nurse. Naturally the cases of impaction of wax, producing impaired hearing, have presented no difficulty in cure. Other cases associated with purulent discharge have been kept under observation by the School Nurse and re-examined by her from time to time in the schools, in order that the parents may be kept up to their responsibilities in attending to their condition. Three cases were treated by radical operation at London hospitals and the results were exceedingly satisfactory. Great difficulty is, however, experienced in obtaining surgical treatment for these children. The Guildford County Hospital, owing to the pressure on their honorary staff, decline to admit children sent by the Local Authority, and even with gratuitous treatment at the London hospitals the expense of the journeys and the distance are insuperable obstacles with many parents, since the really bad cases requiring surgical operation are generally in the very poorest class. The ever present risk to life from the presence of disease in the ears is also not appreciated by most parents, some of whom look upon the prospect of an operation which would radically cure the condition with dismay and apprehension. One very deaf child was made the subject of a special report to the Clerk, and the recommendation made that she should be sent to a school for the deaf.

SPEECH.—Thirteen cases of defective speech were noted, a proportion of 1·1 per cent: nearly all the cases were in children at the earlier age periods. In these cases the teachers have been asked to give special attention to the defect.

MENTAL CONDITIONS.—Nineteen children are described as being very dull or backward. Only one of these, however, was a case of mental defect so extreme as to make any attempts at teaching the child in our schools quite useless. This case, with another “non-routine” case, was reported to the Clerk in the terms of the Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) Act, 1899. Both cases were girls. Up to the present, nothing has been done further.

HEART DISEASE.—Eleven cases of heart disease (9 per cent.) were met with; in each case the condition was carefully explained to both parent and teacher. The various affections included mitral regurgitation (9), mitral stenosis (1), and aortic regurgitation (1).

LUNGS.—Two cases of early tuberculosis of the lungs were found, both girls. One of these cases was referred to the District Medical Officer and the child was removed to the Infirmary for sanatorium treatment. In the other case the child had been for some months under careful sanatorium treatment, and had greatly improved in health and nutrition. A third somewhat suspicious case of lung disease, in which the physical signs were not very distinctive, has been kept under observation.

Thirty-seven cases of marked bronchitis were noted, in most cases appearing to follow as a result of the extensive measles epidemic in the spring. This number, of course, does not include a very large number of cases of slight or moderate bronchial catarrh, so commonly found in children as in adults, at certain seasons of the year.

NERVOUS SYSTEM.—Four epileptic children were found among those inspected. The disease in all the four cases was in a mild form, and therefore there was no reason, with due care and knowledge, why they should not still attend the ordinary school. One case of habit spasm and six children who were described (and appeared to be) of extremely nervous type were also seen. Six children were said to suffer from nocturnal enuresis, and two of these from frequency of micturition during school hours also. Sometimes in the case of these nervous children the mothers do not seem to understand that the condition is not the fault of the child, and is only aggravated by scolding or unkindness. One mother asked me what was the “best thing” for the complaint, and without waiting for my reply, remarked “Hitting of her ain’t no good.”

TUBERCULOSIS.—Three children, as mentioned in a previous paragraph, were considered to be affected with early pulmonary tuberculosis; one child (convalescent) was under treatment with tubercular peritonitis, while two children had tuberculosis glands in the neck.

RICKETS.—Thirty-three children (2·9 per cent.) showed marked evidence of having suffered from this disorder of nutrition in early childhood. The effects of the disease are noticeable mainly in the shape of the thorax, the head, and the legs, while minor manifestations can be often found in conjunction with the above in the condition of the teeth. One case is worth recording as showing the great influence of forms of infant feeding in the subsequent development of the body. Three sisters were presented: two of these had excellent and sound teeth, while the third had soft, transversely striated, weak-looking teeth, many of which were already carious. On inquiry it was found, as I had anticipated, that this child was the only one out of the three who had been brought up in infancy on the "bottle." In one other case aged six the posterior fontanelle was still patent.

DEFORMITIES.—One case of infantile paralysis, one case of hare lip and cleft palate, and one case of double talipes were presented. The last case was a hopelessly deformed cripple, the opportunity for proper treatment having been neglected.

INFECTIOUS AND CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.—At the statutory inspection three children were presented actually affected at the time with mumps, 1 with whooping cough, 1 with German measles, and 1 with chicken pox. There is little wonder that infectious diseases spread with such rapidity through the schools when parents are so thoughtless as to send to school children who are obviously out of health, and for whom they should have sought advice as to the nature of their ailment before allowing them to mix with other children. Three children with ringworm and two with contagious impetigo were also presented.

OTHER DISEASES AND DEFECTS.—Other conditions found were as follows:—Varicose veins 1, varicocele 1, psoriasis, 1, urticaria 2, anæmia 2, desquamative skin 1, phimosis 2, hernia 2, mastitis of puberty 1, muscular dystrophy 1, raised temperature without other physical signs, 1.

NON-ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.—A large number of inspections are made by me daily in the case of children singled out by

myself, or referred to me by the teachers or the School Nurse for directions. The following is a classified list, showing the conditions which existed, or which were thought to be present:—

Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	29
Scarlet Fever Contacts	...	...	...	...	...	25
Errors of Refraction	...	...	...	...	...	25
Diphtheria Contacts and Sore Throats (bacteriological examinations made)	...	...	...	...	...	24
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	...	...	...	...	19
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	...	18
Deafness, Sore Ears	...	...	...	...	...	13
Inflammation of Eyes	...	...	...	...	...	13
Enlarged Glands	...	...	...	...	...	12
Abscesses and Septic Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	10
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	6
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	6
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	1
Corneal Ulcers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Vomiting	...	...	...	...	...	4
Urticaria	...	...	...	...	...	3
Parental Neglect (Insufficient Clothing and Feeding)	...	...	...	...	...	5
Seborrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	2
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	2
Orchitis (Traumatic)	...	...	...	...	...	2
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	2
Contagious Vaginal Discharge	...	...	...	...	...	2
Jaundice	...	...	...	...	...	1
Teno-Synovitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phimosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Talipes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rhinitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chorea	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pott's Disease	...	...	...	...	...	1
Others	...	...	...	...	...	15

EXCLUSIONS OF SCHOLARS DURING 1911.—Two hundred and forty-eight children were notified to me by head teachers as being absent suffering from infectious diseases, thus:—

Measles	...	...	...	129
Mumps	...	...	...	33
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	44
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	40
German Measles	...	...	...	2

A much larger number, in addition, were also excluded for definite periods, according to instructions issued to every head teacher in the case of children coming from infected houses. Other exclusions were for the conditions tabulated below, 456 in number (statutory 140, non-routine, 316):—

Verminous condition of hair	282
" " " body	23
Ringworm	65
Filthy Condition	11
Impetigo	14
Scabies	12
Blepharitis	10
Mumps	14
Chicken Pox	7
Scarlet Fever	4
Sore Ears	3
Sore Throat	2
Mentally Defective State	2
Epilepsy	1
Broncho Pneumonia	1
Psoriasis	1
Squint (3 years of age)	1
Abscess of face	1
Eczema	1
Insufficient Clothing	1
<hr/>	
456	
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REVIEW OF ACTION TAKEN, "FOLLOWING UP," ETC.—
 Minor ailments in the cases of children of necessitous parents are treated, with the consent of the latter, by the School Nurse, under my directions. The ailments to which I allude fall practically into three categories, viz., verminous conditions, running ears, and parasitic diseases of the skin, mainly ringworm, scabies and impetigo. Every effort is made in all cases to fix the responsibility upon the parent, but in a large number of cases the parents are either unable to afford even the small expense attaching to the case, or are unwilling or too indifferent to take the trouble to attend to it. For example, of 68 cases of ringworm found, 32 were treated at the Municipal Buildings, the remainder being referred to the parents to obtain proper treatment. The treatment which we carry out for ringworm of the head is briefly as follows:—(1) Application of strong solution of iodine; (2) two days later strong solution of caustic soda,

to remove iodine and soften skin; (3) fresh application of iodine as before; (4) two days later soda solution repeated; (5) fresh application of iodine; (6) two days later soda solution repeated and skin cleansed; (7) application of white mercurial ointment, which causes slight vesication; (8) three days later dressing of carbolic oil (1 in 60). Under this treatment the worst cases of ringworm have been cured within six weeks and most within from two to four weeks, the cure being manifested, of course, by the complete disappearance of the bald patches and the rapid uniform growth of new soft hair.

In a great many cases where the parents can afford and wish to carry out their own treatment, or the treatment prescribed for them, this is generally done in such a dilatory and unsatisfactory way that several months frequently elapse before the child is fit for school. I call attention to the above-mentioned method of treatment by drugs because I am convinced by experience of the disease that in the vast majority of cases systematic treatment by inexpensive drugs is all that is necessary, and that costly methods of treatment (e.g., by X-Rays) should rarely be required. The administrative control of ringworm is a trying and difficult problem, depending as it does on the elimination of every case from the schools and insistence upon thorough treatment and prompt return of affected cases. It is particularly difficult in Aldershot, owing to the constant influx of children from all parts of the country. We endeavour as far as we can to see that the new admissions are inspected at as early a date as possible. I received a message from a head teacher to the effect that she was getting a bad attendance in a certain class room, due to exclusion for ringworm, and could not understand it, as there was no child with ringworm in that class room. On receiving her message I examined all the children in the particular class room, and found two boys in the class room with extensive ringworm; in this case the cause of the bad attendance was easily revealed.

A great amount of trouble has been taken in "following up" the cases of defects, etc., revealed at the statutory and non-routine inspections, and in this connection I have to record the invaluable assistance of the School Nurse in this procedure. During the year she made 348 visits to the schools, and 960 visits to the homes of the children. In a number of cases, the greatest difficulty is experienced in getting remedial measures carried out; to some extent, in consequence of the difficulty in obtaining hospital accommodation for those requiring surgical treatment. A certain

proportion of the children have the right or the privilege of attention from the Army Medical Department, and it is rarely difficult in these cases to have treatment carried out, since it is entirely without cost to the parents.

In yet other cases we have to rely upon assistance given by (a) Poor Law Authorities; (b) charitable agencies, e.g., the Central Aid Committee, etc.; (c) private individuals. The following table gives information in tabular form as to the various conditions met with, and particulars of treatment with the results as remaining at the close of 1911. With the exception of the question of bad teeth, which, however, in my opinion, is one of the most important considerations, the results obtained, I think, are very gratifying:—

REPORT.	Deafness and Ear Diseases.	Tonsils and Adenoids.	Enlarged Glands (Special Cases).	Ringworm.	Other Skin Eruptions including Scabies and Impetigo.	Hernia.	Circumcision.	Other Diseases and Defects.	Teeth.	Vision.	Visits to Schools.	Visits to Homes.	Children (Placed under Section 120, Children Act.	Prosecution under Section 122, Children Act.
Cured ..	65	41	11	70	47	2	4	41		94	348	960	1	1
Improved ..														
Still having Treatment ..	24	2	2	19	1	1	3	21	5					
No Improvement ..	4			6				2	2					
Nothing Done ..	2		1					2						
Left School ..	1	4	2	3		11	1	1		3				
Parents Refuse ..	9	1	2					1		5				
Glasses obtained ..	3	9	1							6				
Glasses not ..										58				
For Re-inspection ..										6				
Too Young ..										1				
Treatment not advised ..										1				
Sanatorium ..								1		7				
Convalescent Home ..								1						
Waiting to go in Hospital ..														
Waiting for the Committee's Sanction to Contribution ..		4												
Contributed to Cost ..										2				
Treated by School Nurse..	23			32										

PROSECUTIONS.—Fourteen prosecutions and convictions were obtained under the attendance by-laws, 13 of which cases of non-attendance were due to exclusion for verminous conditions.

Under Section 122, Children Act, one prosecution for verminous conditions was instituted and parents convicted, with fine of 21s.

ABNORMAL CHILDREN.—Contribution is made by the Education Committee to the maintenance of eight children at special institutions.

SPECIAL REPORTS TO EDUCATION COMMITTEE.—Special reports were made, with recommendations for special school, in regard to—

- 2 Mentally defective children (girls).
- 1 Epileptic child (girl).
- 1 deaf child (girl).

and one special report urging the necessity of proper treatment in a case (which had been neglected by parents) with regard to ear disease and deafness; also one special report with regard to a case of talipes and its fitness for attending school.

HYGIENE: PHYSICAL EXERCISES.—In the upper standards lessons of half an hour's duration are given once weekly or once fortnightly upon the following subjects:—Temperance, Cleanliness, Foods, Nutrition, Teeth Cleansing, Domestic Hygiene, etc. Physical exercises are given by an instructor twice a week in all the schools.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE SCHOOLS DURING 1911.—The following is an account of schools and departments which have been closed during the year, and the reasons for their closure:—

	Duration of Closure.	Reason.
Roman Catholic School—		
(Infants' Department) ...	Jan. 24 to Feb. 20 ...	Measles.
West End School—		
(Infants' Department) ...	Jan. 23 to Feb. 20 ...	Measles.
East End School—		
(Infants' Department) ...	Jan. 18 to Feb. 20 ...	Measles.
Church of England School—		
(Entire School) ...	Jan. 1 to Feb. 20 ...	Measles.

During January measles was present in epidemic form throughout the town, the disease having commenced at towards the close of 1910. A particularly large number of

children were attacked, few escaping the disease, which was of a more than usually virulent type. A regrettably high mortality was the direct outcome, the epidemic gradually fading away towards the end of February. Mumps was also very prevalent during the first half of the year, most of the cases occurring in a very mild form, so much so that a large number of children were sent back to school by their parents within a day or so of the first symptoms, the cause of the disorder not having been recognised.

Whooping cough was prevalent during the last few months of the year, and caused a great deal of loss of school attendance. A very large number of cases of scarlet fever occurred in the Barracks in September and October, and, as was only to be expected, cases began shortly after to occur in the town, and demanded considerable vigilance on our part to prevent the disease attacking the school children in great numbers. Our difficulties were very much increased by the fact that the disease appeared in a very mild form; "missed" cases were frequent, and, as is shown in another part of the Report, children were actually discovered in school with the rash fully developed or other signs of recent scarlet fever. I have had in six instances had to draw the attention of parents to the culpability of allowing children to be exposed in such a state without having had them examined by their medical attendant, who would have been able to enlighten them as to the nature of the disorder. Fourteen children actually attending school were found to be afflicted with mumps and seven with chicken pox.

We have a system in force of notification by the head teachers on becoming aware of absence due to the infectious diseases. Two hundred and forty-eight cases of infectious disease were thus notified to me during 1911, made up as follows:—Measles, 129; mumps, 33; chicken pox, 44; whooping cough, 40; German measles, 2. It is thus possible, when the system is strictly adhered to, to get very early information of these cases of the non-notifiable diseases, and to take immediate steps in prevention, as, for example, the exclusion of infected children, the examination of contacts, and the temporary exclusion and observation of suspected cases of the particular disease.

CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS OF AGE.—There are so many weighty reasons against, and so few in favour of, the admission of very young children to schools, that I should be glad if the Education Committee would take the matter into their early consideration. Let us examine points of view from

which the question of admission of these children may conceivably be regarded:—

(1) *Health*.—First and foremost, I imagine that the health consideration is the one which should be weighed. There is, first of all a very great and constant danger to the public health in the dissemination of the common infectious diseases, to all of which, without exception, individuals under five years of age are ever so much more susceptible than at any other period of life. And these infectious diseases (although it may be said that they are usually recovered from) do a great deal of damage to health, to subsequent mental and physical development, and cause an immensity of trouble in later school years, while it causes at the time of its occurrence bad school attendance in the higher standards. In 1911 30 young children died in Aldershot alone from measles, an enormous wastage of child life, with a vast amount of sickness and ill-health in other children as well. Experience shows again and again that these infectious diseases do not spread in a district with anything like the rapidity where the limit of five years for school attendance is placed; further, it is important to remember that the longer you can postpone an illness such as measles or whooping cough, the greater the certainty that the child, if affected at a higher age, will pass through it with safety. Again, I have remarked elsewhere on the unsatisfactory footgear which is so common, and which is responsible in bad weather for a great deal of bronchial troubles, chills, etc., which may seriously affect the proper development of vital organs, e.g., the lungs. Further, the possible, and in some cases the certain, injury to the eyesight that is involved must not be forgotten; this is an important matter which is frequently overlooked, and is responsible for a good deal of the serious defects in vision caused by endeavouring to train the eyes before they have become sufficiently developed. And, lastly, the disturbing and too stimulating influence of school attendance on the delicate, nervous organisations of young children must not be overlooked.

(2) *Education*.—It has been repeatedly shown that there is no educational advantage whatever to be derived from commencing school under even six years of age. From an examination point of view, no one can distinguish, taking boys and girls in the mass, say, at seven years of age, children who began their school life at three from those who began it at five. Indeed, if the age of compulsory attendance were placed at six years, as it is in most other countries, there would be no loss from an educational point of view. The

Memorandum by the Secretary in the Education Code for 1905, clearly proves the correctness of this proposition.

(3) *Considerations of Cleanliness, Care, Home Surroundings, Employment of Mother.*—One often hears the remark that it must be much better for children to be in a nice, clean, healthy school for some portion of their time than to remain at home in bad and possibly dirty surroundings. This may certainly be true up to a certain point, but it is not the reason why they are sent by their parents. The principal reason why they are sent is because it is desired to get rid of them, and let someone else look after them, and the principal reason why they are admitted seems to me to be that (for quite natural reasons) the teacher likes to increase her school attendance. The only good reason that I can discover for admitting young children to school is in cases where the mother has to go out to employment during the day, and it is in these cases, no doubt, that some real benefit is received. But such cases must be very few in number in comparison with the whole, and in any case is only an argument for establishing a Municipal Crèche, which would be quite distinct from school premises, and which would be strictly limited to such cases. It should also be borne in mind that children under five years are not allowed to attend the Camp schools, so that a large number of soldiers' children invade the infant schools in the town, with the accompanying risk of bringing infectious disease from one part of the district to the other. And when they attain the age of five they are promptly removed by their parents from the town schools and sent to the Military schools, because, for one thing, they are nearer, and for another because they will be attending the same school as their elder brothers and sisters. So that there is no ultimate credit for the town schools in the case of these children, so far as their education is concerned.

(4) *Financial Considerations.*—I understand that there is no direct financial gain, or on the other hand no direct financial loss involved, in the admission of children under five years to the schools, the additional expense of the necessary extra teaching staff being counter-balanced by the extra Treasury grant. Some indirect financial loss, both public and private, does, however, result without question. The greater proportion of the cases of scarlet fever admitted to the Isolation Hospital during the year have been school children under five years of age. It is practically safe to say that the majority of these would not have run the risk of infection had they been at home. And to this is to be added private expense in the occasional temporary loss of wages or employment

(particularly by the mothers) in these infectious cases. On the whole, therefore, I regard the admission of children under five years of age as a retrograde step, and as one unfavourably influencing school life and children's health. This is a closely populated urban district, and not a thinly peopled rural one, and, therefore, quite on all fours in this respect with London and other large urban communities, who have, very wisely, as I think, fixed the age of five as the age when they are prepared to undertake the education of their children.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

E. W. ROUTLEY.
